

## FACTS AND FIGURES

*Information provided by Guildford Borough Council and the Clerk at Shere Parish Council.*

### Shere Parish Council Size and Structure

- 1.1. The Civil Parish of Shere serves the villages of Shere, Gomshall, Holmbury St. Mary, Peaslake and also a large part of Abinger Hammer (excluding the village centre). It has a total population of approximately 3,500.
- 1.2. As at 1 August 2024, there were 865 local government electors in the Peaslake ward and 3,029 in Shere Parish Council as a whole. A Ward map is attached. Peaslake is in the South West Ward.

### Community Governance Review

- 1.3. The process for considering whether Peaslake should have its own Parish Council involves Guildford Borough Council conducting a community governance review.
- 1.4. A community governance review (“**Review**”) can be triggered by petition addressed to Guildford Borough Council (GBC) and signed by **228** local government electors resident in the Parish.
- 1.5. Any Review would be carried out by GBC (not by Shere Parish Council) and it would have to be concluded within 12 months of GBC receiving the petition.
- 1.6. In carrying out its review, GBC would (among other things):
  - consult the local government electors in the parish of Shere,
  - have regard to the need to secure that community governance for the area under review (1) reflects the identities and interests of the local community in that area, and (2) is effective and convenient, and
  - take into account any representations received in connection with the review.
- 1.7. If at the end of its review GBC were to decide to establish a new parish and a new parish council for Peaslake:
  - This would create a new parish for local governance purposes only; the ecclesiastic parish would be unaffected.
  - All property, rights and liabilities of Shere Parish Council which relate to the Peaslake area would transfer to the new parish council. This would include land situated in Peaslake and all contracts that relate exclusively to the Peaslake area.
  - Assets and liabilities which relate to the Shere parish as a whole would be split by agreement between Shere Parish Council and the new parish council. Any dispute would be resolved by arbitration.

## Peaslake Assets

1.8. The Shere Parish Council Asset Register lists the following assets as Peaslake assets:

- Car park, Pond Lane
- Peaslake Farm, Ewhurst Road
- War Memorial & surround, Peaslake Lane
- Defibrillator, Peaslake
- Play equipment, Peaslake
- Telephone kiosk, Pursers Lane
- Village sign, Peaslake
- Cyclist wooden sign, Millenium trail, off Mackies Hill
- Bus shelters at Burrows Cross, Lenten Close, Crest Hill and village centre
- Notice boards at Crest Hill Bus Stop and village centre
- Benches and seats in village centre, Pursers Lane, play area, field adjacent to play area, Plaws Hill and Lest We Forget bench
- Three planters in the village centre
- Grit bins in Hoe Lane, Walking Bottom and Lenten Close
- Bins at the bus stop in the village centre
- Vehicle activated sign, Peaslake

1.9. There are also a number of leases, licences or other contracts that relate to Peaslake alone, and which would as such transfer to the new council. They are:

- The stream and bank at Ewhurst Road – Licence granted by local residents to SPC (until 2056)
- The skudges and Field (by the playground) – Lease granted by Guildford Diocese to SPC (until 2036)
- Peaslake Farm Fields:
  - Various wayleaves granted by SPC to B4SH
  - Lease granted by SPC to Coverwood Farm (until 2049)
- Pursers Lane Phone Kiosk – Contract adopted by SPC in March 2023

## Finance

1.10. The precept (i.e. the amount of money that a parish or town council receives from council tax payers in their area to fund their operations) is currently set for Shere Parish as a whole. There are therefore no separate figures for Peaslake, although Guildford Borough Council are in the process of calculating the Peaslake element. The precept for Shere Parish as a whole is:

2021-2022	£140,240
2022-2023	£162,028
2023-2024	£178,822
<b>2024-2025 (current year)</b>	<b>£209,397</b>

