

Editors ramblings:

Another point which keeps coming up is this-

“Shere spends most of the income in Shere. Peaslake ( and by extension, Holmbury) gets much less.”

Why is this?

Well think about it: Shere is double the size of the other 2 wards, both in physical size, and population too. And more facilities too: School, village hall, museum, Recreation ground for cricket and football, children's playground, nursery school, and outdoor exercise, the country's first outdoor swimming pool, tennis courts, skate park, Tanyard's Hall, Goose Green football pitch, the grass open area adjacent to Goose Green, Scout hut, Fire Station, public toilets, car parks, doctors surgery, cinema club, riverside attractions for visitors. 3 pubs, restaurants, small supermarkets x 2, you get the idea. There are many other items that could be added to this list. All open to all residents of the whole parish.

Compare to Peaslake:

Peaslake has: Playing fields, x 2, (one used mainly by the shooting club,) children's play area, village hall, hotel with pub, 1 small shop, a garage, a small school, a small car park, You can soon see that Peaslake is simply smaller, requiring less expenditure, due to the fact it has less stuff that needs funding. Its that simple.

Holmbury too is even smaller , with even fewer facilities, (but more pubs) than Peaslake. Residents there seem happy with the current arrangements.

All the funding Peaslake needs, it gets: verges are cut, the memorial is maintained, village hall is in good shape, (spending now £100,000 on an upgrade.) The playground is maintained and updated, etc. SPC provides whatever is needed, (and gets access to loans and funding a a bigger parish,) usually as a matter of course. So why all the fuss along these lines — ” we don’t get enough of the funding, Shere gets it all- We need to control it”

If Peaslake did control it, it would spend it pretty much in the same way. No-one so far has come up with precisely what it is we here lack, and where extra money could be used. At the community council meeting in June, where this was asked, there was no answer given.

One Factor too which no-one seems to recognise or mention:

Gomshall:

Shere is not one village. it is 2. Gomshall hardly gets a mention, but all the expenses of Shere also cover the village of Gomshall, So although we have only 3 wards, there are 4 villages, 2 of which get counted as Shere. Which makes a very big difference.

Gomshall has : Tanyard's Hall, Goose Green plus the 2nd grass area, riverbank to maintain which is visited by school children from all over, a car park, and many other facilities too. (Even the only petrol station in the parish.) All of which Peaslakers can, and do, access and share.

So before jumping on the 'Shere gets it all bandwagon,' consider the fact it is spread over another village too, but the 'spend' there not identified separately in the accounts.

Convinced? I hope so. Let's stay where we are : It's better for Peaslake, and better for all.