

# Crookham Village Parish Council

# Parish News



Issue 12 March 2012

## Yet More Houses

Hart Council has decided to stick with its original plan to build round the edges of Fleet rather than seek a sustainable new settlement somewhere with better infrastructure. Not only that, but contrary to their original proposal, it seems likely that a major development at Grove Farm will be brought forward in advance of the assessment of the traffic impact on Crookham Village of the other developments already in the pipeline. The threat of further development at other sites in and around the parish also remains very real.

The government has recently published its National Planning Policy Framework which says that a Local Plan should meet objectively assessed needs for housing. Work on that assessment is still on-going by Hart DC, but the outcome may force an increase in the annual number of houses to be built over that originally envisaged in the Hart's draft Local Development Framework (the successor document to the current Local Plan).

It is very important that anyone who values the local environment and wishes to retain the remaining rural areas of the parish should take a close interest in related consultations by Hart Council and central government and make their own timely responses. Unless it is seen that a large number of local people have a relevant opinion on the way ahead, developments will continue to be imposed by planners rather than welcomed by the existing population.

The next significant date in the process is Summer 2012 which will be the final consultation on the draft Hart Local Development Framework before it goes for formal approval by the Secretary of State. It is very important that parishioners take a detailed interest in this consultation and submit their individual views within the consultation time window. Watch the local press and the CVPC web site for further details as they become available.



## New Web Site For Zebon Copse Centre

By the time you read this newsletter, a new web site for Zebon Copse Centre (ZCC) will be on line at [www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk](http://www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk). The new site gives full details of the facilities available, regular users and events. There are also new on-line forms through which to make booking or other enquiries.

The range of activities offered at ZCC changes from time to time. To keep up to date and ensure that you don't miss something that may interest you, keep an eye on the web site or see the current schedule posted in the window beside the main entrance at ZCC.

### Contacting the Parish Council

Correspondence should be addressed to the clerk at:

Daegmarsfield Farm Church Lane Dogmersfield Hook RG27 8SZ Tel: 01252 810568 [clerk@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk)

### Contacting individual Parish Councillors and Officers

All email addresses have the format: [firstname.surname@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk](mailto:firstname.surname@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk)

Visit the Parish Council web site at [www.crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk](http://www.crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk) for latest news, contacts and minutes.

## Meet the Team

We are pleased to welcome two new members who have recently joined the Parish Council -

### Colin Lethbridge



I moved to Zebon Copse in May, 1998. Until our daughter was born in 2002, both my wife and I worked in London, which, unfortunately, meant very little time for involvement in local affairs. With my current role, I am able to fulfil a long held ambition by offering my services to the local community as a parish councillor and was pleased to be accepted in December 2011. I am keen to serve on the committees of the parish council and have already been appointed to the Finance Committee and Planning Committee.

As a councillor, I am particularly concerned about transport in the area. To that end I am the Council's nominated representative on the Rushmoor and Hart Passenger Transport Forum. It is a great honour and privilege to be allowed to serve my community as a Parish Councillor.

### Robert Ney

I have been a Parish Councillor for Crookham Village on two occasions in the past. However, due to my work commitments, I have had to move to other areas of the Country to enable me to work on specific projects. I am now back living in an area which my family and I like very much and where we have always been happy. I offered my services again to the Parish Council and was co-opted to the Council in February 2012.



There has been little change in local Parish issues since I left the area some 18 months ago. Following the CVPC take over of the Zebon Copse Centre, nearly two years ago, it has now grown into a well used venue for the local community, without being a financial burden on Parish resources. This is largely due to the efforts of the centre staff, who are doing an excellent job.

I am concerned about the increased development in local surrounding areas and will work to ensure the impact on the Parish is kept to a minimum. Traffic is still major problem within our area and with major housing developments in the local area, there will no doubt be a significant impact on our local roads. I will endeavour to help whenever I can with regard to the Parish Council's efforts trying to calm down the traffic flow within our area, making this a safe place to live and work.

## Street Lights

Under a new 25-year PFI contract, the great majority of street lights in the parish are now being maintained by Hampshire County Council contractors. This contract includes updating lamps and lamp posts as necessary and while the vast majority of lamp posts in the parish are relatively new and do not need replacing in the immediate future, the lamps at the top of the columns do not meet the present-day standards for economy, light-spill and controllability. As a result, we anticipate that all our sodium lights will be changed to white lights that meet the new standard, while the old-style lamps in Crookham Village will have a new head to a very similar design with updated bulbs. All the new lamps will be linked to a control centre covering the whole of Hampshire from where status and lighting levels will be monitored and controlled. For our area, this work is currently scheduled in the second half of 2012. Although repainting the many somewhat jaded looking columns will be done on a different schedule, we anticipate this will be done some time after the change of lamps.



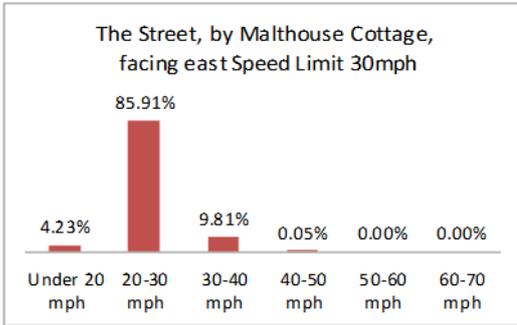
### Netherhouse Moor Playground

CVPC recognises that the playground on Netherhouse Moor is nearing the end of its natural life and is in need of attention. We are looking into options for a replacement and would welcome ideas from the local community as to how we can make the best use of this area for the benefit of all ages.

We would like to welcome feedback from residents using the contact details on the front page, or come along to the Annual Parish Meeting in the WI Hall on Monday 16th April and discuss them with your parish councillors.

## Speed Indicator Device

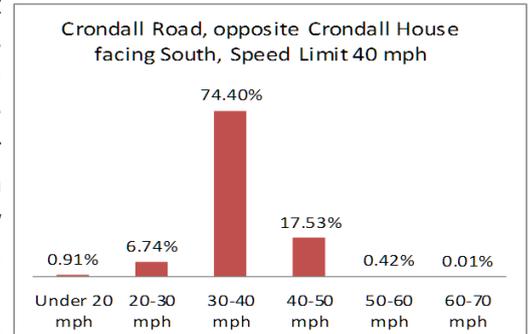
The Parish Council owns a Speed Indicator Device. This is the box that you may have seen popping up on posts around the Parish. It monitors your speed and flashes if you are exceeding the speed limit. The data collected shows adds to the data surveys already done by Hampshire County Council. More importantly, it will alert people to watch their speed as they drive through the Parish. The graphs show samples some of the data measured.



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Hampshire Police also run a scheme known as Community Speedwatch. Community volunteers work alongside Hampshire Constabulary officers to identify vehicles which exceed the speed limit.

If you would like more details of the scheme, please contact the Clerk.



## Zebon Copse Woodland

Using Lottery funding, the HCC Rangers who manage the woodland in Zebon Copse, have made a new pond and extended the network of paths and boardwalks through the Copse. Display boards have been installed in strategic locations ready to offer guidance on local flora and fauna. In the process, large quantities of vegetation have been clear and areas of Copse opened up considerably.

At the Zebon Copse Residents Association AGM in February, some residents expressed disappointment at the scale of these works and asked that the Rangers explain their management plan to allay their concerns. As a result, the Rangers will be explaining their plans at the Annual Parish Meeting in the WI Hall on 16 April and all who are interested in the future of the Zebon Copse woodland are encouraged to attend.



## Zebon Copse Centre Activities

The Zebon Copse Centre, set at the heart of the Zebon Copse Community, offers many diverse activities for all the family. Over the past couple of years, the activities at the centre have rapidly expanded and with two centre managers on hand to run the office on a daily basis, you would be sure of a warm welcome should you wish to enquire about classes, courses or booking the centre for a private event. We have hosted many parties over the past year including an Indian wedding celebration, several 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday parties – one including an indoor bucking bronco party – golden weddings, anniversaries and christenings as well as many children's birthday parties and discos, seminars and training days. The centre particularly lends itself to fetes, dog shows and fun days during the summer months while our resident football clubs are taking their seasonal break, with large well manicured field spaces utilised for exercise groups and archery whilst children can make good use of the well-equipped and maintained Junior and Senior adventure playgrounds.

Inside the centre we have regular activities during term-time: playgroups and art, gym and football for pre-schoolers, not forgetting Baby sensory and yoga for babies, street dance, karate and perform drama group after school for older children; several Zumba classes, pilates, yoga and bokwa for adults during weekday evenings plus our U3A bridge, art and Shakespeare groups for seniors. We also have a regular cake decoration workshop class running through this



summer as well as soccer camps for children during the holidays. Our resident Slimming World group runs weekly throughout the year. For the four legged member of the family we have regular dog training, agility and nutrition courses too. CVPC has sponsored sessions at Zebon Copse Centre for tiny footballers aged between two and five as an introduction to the game under a new initiative from Aldershot Town's 'Shots in the Community Trust' and the 'Safer Hart' Partnership. The Mini Shots sessions are held on Fridays (12.30-1.15pm) at the Zebon Copse Centre.

There will be other new activities starting soon so keep an eye on our new website or look at the posters and leaflet stand inside the centre. If you would like to make an enquiry you can do so via the website or call the office on 01252 615003.

# Annual Parish Meeting

## Monday 16th April 2012 at 8pm

in the WI Hall, The Street, Crookham Village

### Meet your Councillors and join them for refreshments from 7:30

This meeting is your opportunity to come and tell us what YOU think about local issues, also to ask your elected representatives questions.

#### Agenda :

- **Chairman's report**
- **Zebon Copse Management Plan - Report from Ranger**
- **County and District Councillors' question time**
- **Parish Information Room And Councillor's Surgeries**
- **Consider resolutions of which written notice has been received (address below)**
- **Any Other Business**

Please do come along and join in the discussions on the agenda items, or any other issue you feel passionately about.

The format of the evening will be fairly flexible:

7:30-8:00 Join the councillors for refreshments

8:00-9:00 Reports and agenda items

9:00-9:30 Break for informal discussions with councillors

9:30-10:00 Summary and action plan

Contact the Clerk on: 01252 810568 or email: [clerk@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk)

### Summer Fete

The annual Zebon Copse and Crookham Village Fete will be held at Zebon Copse Centre, Church Crookham, from 1pm to 5pm on Sunday 1 July 2012 with something for all the family. As in previous years, there will be a BBQ and hog roast, real ale bar and soft drinks, ice cream, tea and cakes, a live jazz band plus many other stalls and activities.



This year centrepiece will be a dog agility demonstration followed by a fun dog show. The Parish Council are sponsoring wire-modelling workshops, this is for younger children accompanied by their parents with the first session at 1pm – book in advance at their tent on fete day to avoid disappointment. This is run by The Making, who ran the very-popular kite making workshops last year.

See [www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk/events.html](http://www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk/events.html) for further details.

### Dog Fouling

The Parish Council maintains a poo-bag dispenser at The Street end of FP5 near Veronica Drive. If you find that the bags have run out, please advise CVPC so they can be replenished.

It has been very noticeable in recent months that not only are some people allowing their dogs to foul public areas, but also that significant numbers of filled bags are being abandoned rather than disposed of properly. Public open spaces where children play are also particularly vulnerable to dog fouling if careless owners do not clear up properly. Yet again, this is a plea for all dog owners to clear up after their pets and keep our parish clear of dog mess and associated plastic bags.