

# Crookham Village Parish Council

## Parish News



Issue 10 March 2011

### Have your say in your local community

Did you know that your Parish has assets in excess of a £1 million and has a budget of almost £100,000 per year to spend on community projects and maintenance in our area? Do you know the Parish Councillors who look after your community?

Come to the Annual Parish Meeting on April 4<sup>th</sup> to meet the people who look after the parish assets on your behalf and to whom you entrust the care and maintenance of your community.

We currently have a vacancy for a parish councillor so why not become involved yourself - you need only do what you can. By becoming part of the CVPC team you can have an influence on Planning and preserving the Conservation area, Highways and public transport, community projects and play areas, trees, footpaths and public amenity spaces. We look forward to seeing you on 4<sup>th</sup> April.



### Zebon Copse Centre

**Official Renaming Ceremony on Monday 4th April at 7:15 pm by the Chairman of Hampshire County Council, Councillor Carol Leversha.**

**Please come along for the ceremony, followed by refreshments and the Annual Parish Meeting.**

### Canal Towpath

An attractive and sturdy new oak log bench has been installed on the canal towpath near the swing bridge. It was presented by his family from Eastbourne, in memory of George Frampton, late of Hitches Lane who was a frequent towpath walker.

We are indebted to them for this splendid addition to our most popular amenity as well as commemorating a well-liked villager.



Hello, I'm Sarah Sherman, the new administrator at the Zebon Copse Centre working alongside Claire Rowe. I've been working for Crookham Village Parish Council for four months here at the centre and the two of us have varied roles which involve assisting the regular users, liaising with contractors, processing bookings, keeping the playgrounds safe and generally raising awareness of what we offer in the way of classes and user groups. Before I joined I had no idea what a busy thriving centre it is at Zebon Copse with activities for all age groups.

So whether you are interested in Art, Pilates, Drama, Yoga, Football, playing bridge, have children at playgroup or toddler group, or are interested in hiring the centre for a party or a club or social event, then please come down or call us and see what we can offer. We have upcoming summer events such as fetes and fun-days and even a dog show! The facilities are wonderful and we take great pride in our centre ensuring everything runs smoothly day to day for the benefit of the local community.

To make a booking Email :- [ZCCadmin@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk](mailto:ZCCadmin@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk) or telephone 01252 615003.

### 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*

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

We have also added a number of links on our website, to provide information on planning issues. These provide guidance on the new planning regulations introduced at the end of last year.

## Housing, where's it going to go?

In common with all Councils, Hart District Council (HDC) has an obligation to plan for the future, this forward plan is known as the Local Development Framework (LDF). The documents sets out the fundamental direction for future development in the District covering a number of topics, including, employment provision, natural resources, infrastructure and development requirements. Identifying sites to meet the predicted housing needs over the next 20 years is done within the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). This not only shows land where it is currently deemed acceptable for development to take place under the local plan but also shows land which landowners would be prepared to sell for development purposes but which falls outside the present policy or "settlement boundary". Generally, sites in the SHLAA fall into three categories;

- Excluded, because for legal reasons planning permission could never be given;
- Deliverable, i.e. the land falls within the current policy; and
- Not Currently Deliverable, which is land that cannot be considered unless it is accepted for inclusion as suitable for development in the next local plan i.e. the "settlement boundary" is increased.

HDC has assessed future requirements and decided that over the next 20 years, some 200 dwellings per year will be needed which equates to a total of 4000 new homes. According to the SHLAA, a total of 1766 new homes could be built on sites that either already have, or could have, planning permission under the current local plan. This figure includes the 872 new dwellings on the QEB site, for which the current application will be determined on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Clearly that leaves over 2200 new dwellings for which sites need to be found. Of these, some 900 will be expected to be located in Fleet and Church Crookham on sites listed in the SHLAA as Not Currently Developable.

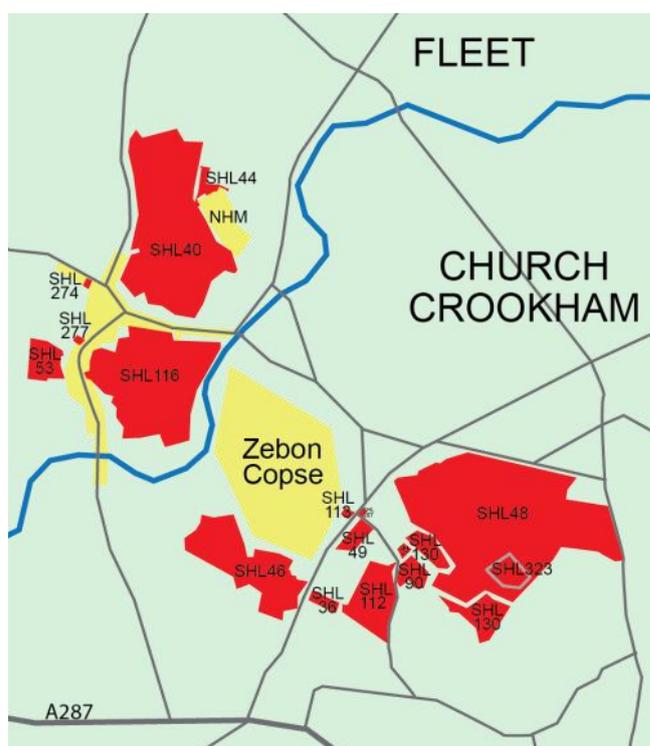
The following is an extract from the SHLAA of sites within our Parish, while the plan also shows sites surrounding the Parish:

Reference	Location	SHLAA Status	Dwellings
SHL40	Grove Farm, Fleet	Not currently developable	500
SHL46	Watery Lane, Fleet	Not currently developable	325
SHL53	Land at Stroud Lane, Crookham Village	Not currently developable	140
SHL113	Elmfields, Church Crookham	Deliverable	12
SHL116	Cross Farm, Crookham Village	Not currently developable	960
SHL118	Land at rear of Cross Farm, Crookham Village	Not currently developable	5
SHL274	Pilcot, Pilcot Road, Crookham Village	Deliverable	4
SHL277	Land adj to Seven Steps, Crookham Village	Deliverable	2

This gives a total of 1947 homes, of which only 18 fall within the current local plan. All of the remaining homes would have to be built on green field sites that currently surround our village.

Before any of these sites are accepted, there is a process of consultation, so there will be ample opportunity to make your views known. However, CVPC do want to flag up the likelihood of what may be proposed in terms of new building sites for our village so that when the consultation phase starts everyone is fully aware of the situation and can make informed comments.

As the process moves forward, there will initially be a series of public exhibitions. We are already aware of a provisional date for the first exhibition in Fleet on 21<sup>st</sup> May, however that is yet to be confirmed. Please watch our web site and as soon as we have more details we will publicise them. We will also be discussing this topic at our APM on 4<sup>th</sup> April.



## New Nature Trail at Zebon Copse Local Nature Reserve

Zebon Copse Local Nature Reserve is due to undergo a significant make-over this year after a successful “Community and Wildlife” grant application, made jointly between Hampshire Countryside Services and Crookham Village Parish Council, provided funding to create a new Interpretive Nature Trail around the Copse. Plans are currently underway to make improvements including a new wildlife pond, boardwalk and educational information panels about the history and wildlife of Zebon Copse.



**Photo: Friends of Zebon Copse hard at work cutting back invasive rhododendron and clearing the future pond area.**

The 20 acre ancient woodland site based in the heart of Zebon housing estate and adjacent to the Basingstoke Canal provides a valuable community resource and recreational facility, with existing paths being used on a regular basis by dog-walkers and passers-by. This exciting new project will allow the public to enjoy more of the site, learn about the variety of flora and fauna of Zebon Copse, open up new opportunities for education for local schools and community groups (such as pond-dipping and woodland activities), create new havens for wildlife and increase knowledge and awareness of rarer species such as Stag Beetles. The trail will be long-lasting, low-maintenance and will be built by local volunteers and community groups under the guidance of the Hampshire County Council rangers who manage the site. Our two regular volunteer groups, Minding The Garden and The Friends of Zebon Copse, have already made a great start to the project by helping to clear the area for the pond to be dug.

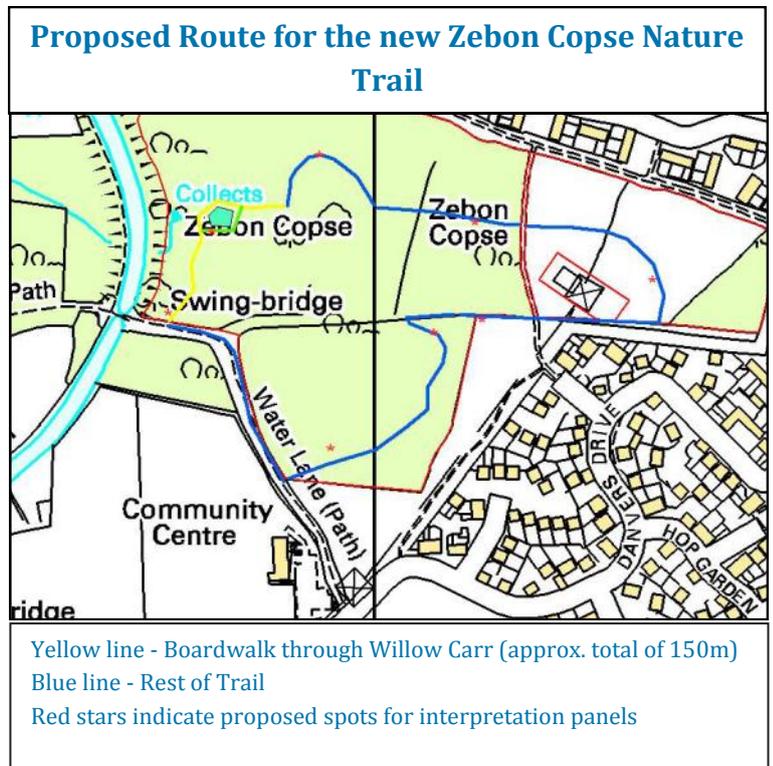
It is hoped that the proposed Nature Trail, which will

form an approximately 1km circuit around the Copse, will protect and enhance existing wildlife habitats for future generations to study and enjoy, encouraging both the local community and visitors from the nearby canal to explore and look after the Reserve and its flora and fauna.

If you would like to get involved with this project, or would like to find out more, please get in touch with Zebon Copse Ranger Natalie Tanzer on 01252 870425 or email: [northern.sites@hants.gov.uk](mailto:northern.sites@hants.gov.uk).

### Pilcot Road Footway

The Parish Council has now written to all residents living on Pilcot Road, seeking their views on the proposed new footway. So far we have received positive responses from a number of resident to support this vital route to the school in Dogmersfield. We would welcome further views from local residents so that we can progress this important project.



### Zebon Copse Fete and Twinning Association

To show their support for the annual parish fete held at Zebon Copse Centre, which is jointly organised by ZCRA and CVA, Crookham Village Parish Council has voted to waive the fee for the hire of the Zebon Copse Community Centre. This year the fete will be held on Sunday 3 July .

CVPC also voted to support the next Twinning visit which will take place over the weekend of 10 to 13 June by providing the venue for the picnic and sports activities at the Zebon Copse Centre on Sunday afternoon.

**Zebon Copse Centre renaming ceremony to  
be performed by the Chairman of  
Hampshire County Council**

**at 7:15**

followed by

**Annual Parish Meeting**

**Monday 4th April 2011 at 8pm**

**in the Zebon Copse Centre,**

**Danvers Drive, Crookham Village**

**Meet your Councillors and join them for  
refreshments**

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

**The agenda includes:**

- **Chairman's report**
- **County and District Councillors' question time**
- **Potential housing development in the Parish**

**If you wish to have a specific resolution added to the agenda for debate and to  
vote on, please notify the clerk in advance of the meeting – all topics welcome.**

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

Contact the Clerk on: 01252 810568 or email:  
clerk@crookhamvillage-pc.org.uk

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