

Crookham Village Parish Council

Parish News



Issue 16 September 2015



Chairman Simon Ambler

Planning Issues - Albany Park Inquiry

Many of you will have been involved in objecting to the Albany Park planning application and subsequent Appeal against the outline application for 300 dwellings. CVPC worked with local residents to put a case to the Inspector to refuse the Appeal and also engaged specialist consultants to support its objections. Regrettably the Inspector ruled in favour of Granting the Application for Outline Planning Permission. An application for reserve matters will be submitted in due course when it will be determined by Hart District Council.

Grove Farm (land north of Netherhouse Moor) Planning Application

Hart District Council considered this application on 29 July 2015 and both the Parish Council and local action group FACE-IT spoke at the meeting. HDC Planning Committee unanimously supported the officer recommendation to refuse permission on the grounds that this would be inappropriate development in a designated local gap. The developer now has an option to lodge an appeal within the next five months and CVPC will again ensure that the views of the local community are fully represented, should there be an appeal.

Public Transport - Fleet Link Service

Following the loss of the local bus service CVPC agreed to help fund the Fleet Link Bus Service along with Fleet Town Council, Elvetham Heath Parish Council and Church Crookham Parish Council. This service is available for areas where there is no bus service and for those who struggle to use an existing bus service. You can travel to Fleet on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and to Kingsmead in Farnborough on a Tuesday. Fares are £3 return for local journeys and £4.50 return for the Farnborough trip. Concessionary bus pass holders may travel for half price. Anyone wishing to use Fleet Link can ring 0845 602 4135 for more information.

We would be grateful if anyone using the bus service recently withdrawn could complete the short survey enclosed with this newsletter so that we can understand the public transport needs of our residents. In this way we can divert funds to those services which, if economically viable, are essential for our local residents.

Communicare Volunteer Drivers

As a result of the loss of bus services the demands on the Communicare volunteers means that more volunteer car owners and drivers are needed. Mileage expenses are paid and the service is for residents of Fleet, Church Crookham, Crookham Village and Dogmersfield. Users may make a small donation.

The service is **only for medical appointments for anyone in need** and can cover attendance at local surgeries, hospitals and other healthcare venues (dentists and physiotherapists). If you can help - even if only on an ad hoc basis - please contact the Fleet & District Voluntary Care Scheme (Communicare) on 01252 613121 - Monday to Friday between the hours of 10am to 1pm.

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

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 for latest news, contacts and minutes.

More information on the Zebon Copse Centre, including how to book can be found at www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk or phone 01252 615003

Crookham Village Parish Disaster Plan

CVPC has produced a resilience plan that has been agreed with the overarching Emergency Planning Department at Hampshire County Council and shared with Hart District Council and interested neighbouring parish councils. Much of the plan is associated with communication and lists all of the relevant agencies and how to get further support. In the event of an emergency, the parish council will set up a control centre in the Zebon Copse Centre which will then be used as a liaison point, upwards to HDC and HCC and down to local facilities.

Can you help: Are you – a doctor, nurse or first aider; 4x4 vehicle or tractor owner who could help in severe weather; chainsaw operative; volunteer driver; an organiser of a voluntary organisation who could help. If so, please contact Councillor Richard Eastment on 07710 501825 who will be delighted to discuss the plan with you.

Defibrillator

CVPC has purchased a defibrillator which is lodged at the Spar Shop on Frenchman's Creek thanks to the generosity of the owner Rajan. We also have a rubber body for practice and videos showing how to use this equipment. Anyone who is interested in assisting should contact the Parish Clerk whose details are on page 1 of this newsletter. A further defibrillator is to be purchased and it is hoped that this will be sited in the Parish Council bus shelter at the Crookham Street Social Club.

Lea Green Play Area and Gym Equipment

Following feedback from local residents, CVPC added a football/basket ball goal end, a zip wire and roundabout facility to the junior play areas on Lea Green together with eight items of outdoor gym



equipment designed for use by adult residents, over the age of 14 years. This equipment has been well received locally and based on the feedback received, we anticipate that similar equipment would also be appreciated at the Zebon Copse Centre, which has space for a gym area.

Sadly, the Mezzo spring ball has been vandalised so many times that we have reluctantly decided to remove the equipment permanently as the

costs of repair are too high. The zip wire has also received the attention of vandals in that it was barely 4 weeks old before the platform was damaged and had to be replaced. All these items are very expensive and it would be very sad if the vandalism continues to the extent that they have to be removed permanently.

Should there be further issues with damaged items the Parish Clerk can be contacted either via telephone (ansaphone facility) or email and this will be rectified as a matter of urgency.



Stop Press - Forgotten Footpaths

Do any of you know of footpaths in the parish or surrounding countryside that have now fallen into disuse and vanished in the last few years? We have been offered a window of opportunity by the Government to register forgotten footpaths so that CVPC can work to get them restored in future years.

Malthouse Bridge Repairs

Despite repairs to the bridge taking a considerable amount of time to complete, members and some residents have expressed concern at its final appearance. We have attempted to remedy this but have been informed that as the bridge is listed and the existing bricks could not be reused, new hand made bricks had to be sourced. We have been told that extensive efforts have been made to make the repair blend in with the current bricks and that the conservation officer is happy with the result.

Earlier this month, the bridge was yet again damaged and CVPC will try once more to ensure that the repair is in keeping with the bridge's listed status.



Crondall Road Safety Improvements

Finally the long running saga of the repairs to the banking outside Hillcroft on Crondall Road has been resolved. In May, Hampshire County Council implemented part of the planned safety improvements by creating a footpath on part of Crondall Road. To make room for the footpath, the banking outside Hillcroft needed to be cut back and HCC then stabilised it using a double row of concrete slabs. CVPC was inundated with emails from residents complaining about these slabs and both councillors and the local ward councillors have engaged with HCC to find a suitable remedy for the situation. Over the weeks, it became clear that the concrete slabs were unsafe as they kept moving. Finally HCC agreed to seed the banking with suitable grasses which has now proved to be both highly successful and popular with residents.



Photographs courtesy of Sarah Callaghan

Zebon Copse Centre

Bookings and enquiries can be made via our website at www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk or by calling our friendly centre managers on 01252 615003.

