

# Crookham Village Parish News



Parish Council

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## Contacting the Parish Council

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[clerk@crookhamvillage.org.uk](mailto:clerk@crookhamvillage.org.uk)

Email addresses  
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[@crookhamvillage.org.uk](mailto:@crookhamvillage.org.uk)

Visit the Parish web site at

[www.crookhamvillage.org.uk](http://www.crookhamvillage.org.uk)

More information about Zebon  
Community Centre is at

[www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk](http://www.zeboncopsecentre.org.uk)

**01252-615003**

[admin@zeboncopsecentre.org.uk](mailto:admin@zeboncopsecentre.org.uk)

## Three New Parish Councillors Required Urgently

The parish council is urgently seeking three new parish councillors to recover to the full complement of eight. The remaining five are currently carrying the burden of seriously-increased workload.

A total of eight councillors (5 Zebon, 2 Village, 1 Netherhouse) make up the full complement with 4-yearly elections of the full council next due in May 2020.

There are currently two vacancies for Zebon Ward and one for the Village Ward. Any parish elector can be a member for any ward. See the Electoral Commission web site for the full eligibility rules.

The parish council has an annual budget of over £100k to run Zebon Copse Centre and fulfil its other duties such as maintenance of open spaces in parish ownership and dog bag dispensers, provision of play equipment, maintenance of roadside features, monitoring and responding to planning applications and taking part in planning appeals, seeking to retain and enhance local infrastructure and facilities and generally promoting wellbeing in the parish.

The full council meets in the evenings of the 1st available Monday each month except August whilst the Planning and Finance Committees meet monthly between main meetings.

Current major activities include completing the Parish Neighbourhood Plan, following and influencing progress on Watery Lane, Grove Farm and WI Hall proposed developments, the Cross Farm appeal, and running ZCC.

**Please will anyone interested in knowing more contact the Clerk (see panel at left).**

# Parish Neighbourhood Plan

**A robust neighbourhood plan is essential to ensure that future building projects in the parish bring maximum benefit and least disadvantage.**

The Crookham Village Parish Neighbourhood Plan (CVNP) is currently undergoing the final public consultation with a deadline for responses of noon on Friday 15 March 2019.

This is a plan that will take us through until 2032 although inevitably there will be revisions along the way. It applies to the whole of the parish area, including Zebon Copse, Netherhouse Moor, Crookham Village and the two major sites approved but not yet built: Watery Lane and Grove Farm.

Whilst respecting National and District policies, at a parish level planning policy will be set by our Neighbourhood Plan. Our Plan contains a range of policies which will shape future development in the parish so as to minimise adverse effects and maximise benefits for both existing and new parishioners.

**Without a Neighbourhood Plan, local imperatives would, as history has clearly demonstrated to the detriment of us all, carry very little weight in the planning process.**

Our initial consultation responses showed that with two major developments already on the cards, you did not want the Plan to allocate additional sites for development - our plan reflects this. Our respondents felt that the 425 homes on Grove Farm and a further 300 on Watery Lane would more than meet local needs, especially when added to the other sites currently in progress on our borders plus those defined in the emerging Hart Local Plan which has already gone through its Examination in Public.

**It is essential that a good proportion of parishioners submit their personal views on the content of the draft Plan by the 15 March 2019 noon deadline.**

For the plan to gain official status and be adopted, it has to go through various legal stages. Part of that is the current consultation. All comments received will be reviewed and responses published, then we will make any changes as necessary. The Plan will then go to Hart for vetting before going to a Planning Inspector for close scrutiny. Finally, once past these hurdles, the plan will be put to the parish for approval by referendum. If accepted it then becomes part of the Planning Policy that must be taken into account when determining all planning applications in the Parish.

Parishioners wishing to find out more before they respond to the consultation should visit [www.plan4crookham.org](http://www.plan4crookham.org) where you can view all the documents and submit your response on line. To see a hard copy of the Plan document visit Zebon Copse Centre or Crookham Village Social Club during working hours.

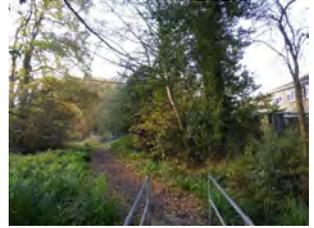
**There will be a final public session to explain the Plan and consultation in the WI Hall at 8pm on 11 March**

# Tree Work at Lea Green

The Parish Council recently commissioned a survey of trees behind Larmer Close, which showed that several deserved attention.

The first stage of work is due to be completed before the nesting season starts this year.

The final stage should follow in the autumn.



## Improving the Parish Environment

The parish owns the land at Lea Green, the land around Zebon Copse Centre and has recently acquired the green space at The Crescent. The parish council also owns and maintains dispensers for dog bags and grit bins for the roads at various locations around the parish. In addition, Parish Lengthsmen help by cleaning signs and cutting back overhanging or obstructive roadside vegetation.

**If you see anything that you believe deserves attention by the Parish Council, please contact the Parish Clerk.**

## Replacement WI Hall

Planning application 18/02532/FUL for a permanent replacement for the WI Hall was approved by Hart Council on 30 January with strong support from CVPC.

Following representations by the parish council and others, approval includes extra space for parking to overcome current capacity issues.

It is estimated that construction will take about 6 months from a start date that has yet to be determined.

CVPC wishes to acknowledge with thanks the generosity of the White family in continuing their long-term support for the WI facility.

## Grants by CVPC

Last year the parish council made a one-off grant of £1500 to the Basingstoke Canal Society towards the cost of refurbishing Chequers Wharf and reducing its height above the water to improve accessibility for canoeists and less mobile canal boaters.

The parish council also supports the WI Hall with an annual grant (£600 this year) and allows free use of the facilities at Zebon Copse Centre for the annual fete, organised by Zebon Copse Residents' Association, that serves the whole parish (this year on 30 June).



# Local Housing Developments

## Watery Lane

Approval, despite strong parish objections, has recently been given by Hart to a redesign of the access to the Watery Lane (Albany Park) site which is somewhat closer to Watery Lane than originally proposed and without traffic lights or roundabout. The exit will be just an ordinary junction and much of the tree screening of the site will be removed to give adequate visibility along Redfields Lane from the exit. Otherwise, all has gone rather quiet on the rest of the development and the associated new roundabout to replace the Redfields Lane/A287 junction.

In the longer term the Watery Lane development should provide a replacement sports changing facility and finance conversion of the sports section of Zebon Cope Centre into a third community area to cater for the increased local population.

## Grove Farm

Four Reserved Matters applications for Grove Farm are currently under consideration by Hart covering the SANG (open space), Community building and associated open space, the first phase of construction, and the construction method statement.

CVPC objected to the proposals for the 1st phase of construction primarily due to grossly-insufficient parking and the massing and concentration of affordable housing into a dense enclave area. Subsequently a modified application was submitted, to which the parish again objected on grounds that the changes were not sufficient to overcome previous objections.

CVPC also objected to the proposal for the Community Building and have been pleased to find that Berkeley Homes have subsequently engaged with the parish to generate a revised design of building which will be more viable to operate and better meet the needs of potential users. A revised application should follow shortly.

Finally, CVPC offered a number of practical suggestions to enhance the proposed SANG area on the other side of Hitches Lane. To date there are no indications that our suggestions have been accepted.

## Cross Farm

Ahead lies the challenge of contributing to defence of the village setting during the planning appeal hearing into a care village on Cross Farm.

**Neighbourhood Plan consultation ends at noon on 15 March**

**Final open session for parishioners is  
at 8pm in the WI Hall  
on Monday 11 March 2019**

If you want to discuss elements of the Plan or how to respond to the consultation, please come along and talk it through with the Plan team.