

North Crawley Parish Bulletin May 2023

Hi Folks, Steve here with your monthly update of local goings on!

We had local elections on 4th May - and as there were only 5 volunteers to be Parish Councillors with 7 vacancies, the 5 were "elected unopposed" prior to the election. Your councillors for the next 4-year term are Terry Smith, Jan Weatherly, Gary Baxter, Derek Harpur and myself. I was nominated to retain my role as Chairman at the latest PC meeting which I was honoured to accept. We are now looking for 2 more residents to co-opt on to the PC - and I'm delighted to say that Niels Kearney has already put himself forward and will be co-opted from the June PC meeting. It still leaves us with 1 vacancy though. Please do give some thought to joining us to help keep our community a great place to be.

The election saw a change in ward councillors for us - David Hosking (Conservative), who has been a particularly helpful Ward Councillor, is replaced by Debbie Whitworth (Labour). We look forward to working with Debbie in the years ahead.

Well, the event of the month, year and probably decade has got to have been the King's Coronation - a spectacular display of pageantry and ancient traditions. And the whole thing worked like clockwork - I'm sure we all felt proud of our country. And here in the village it was lovely to hear the Church bells ring for the King - thank you to all the volunteers who put in so much time practicing. They sounded wonderful!

And, of course, North Crawley celebrated on the Sunday when around 50 crafters, young and not so young joined our 3 professional artists to create some amazing artwork on the theme of the Coronation. Straight after that, FONS set up various stalls for some family fun and to raise some funds for the school. Then it was into the Club room for free tea and cakes - and my oh my what cakes they were - North Crawley's star baker, Angela Adderson, excelled herself with 15 amazing Victoria sponges and Charles 3rd sponges (with Apricot jam instead of Raspberry!). 2 of the sponges were donated to the good folks of Folly Lane who had great fun at their own street party. And with some decent weather (for a change!), several families enjoyed a picnic in the park.

The Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Group (IG) has now written to all residents on their email lists to explain how the IG will work. If you would like to be on the email list, simply let us know on ncnp@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk. Also, if you know of anyone who doesn't have an email address or internet and would like a hard copy of the IG minutes just ask them to phone Sheila, our clerk, on 01234 391501. So far, we have contacted most of the landowners and developers who seem happy to work with us so we can ensure the principles of the Neighbourhood Plan are incorporated into the developments.

The IMC has been working hard to raise funds to replace the ball stop netting which protects the properties on the western edge of the cricket pitch. Due to a successful crowdfunding campaign, a grant and contributions from the IMC, the Cricket Club and the Parish Council, it looks like the new netting should be in place ready for next year's cricket season. Well done Teresa (who has put a lot of work into this) and to everyone who contributed to the Crowdfunding appeal. Thank you!

It is very frustrating that we have had no update on the Ousedale School placements we need for our village children nor on the funds for a crossing warden. We will continue to badger MKCC and our Ward Councillors to come up with some answers to these important issues.

Now summer is near, it's time for you to put the Fun Day date in your diaries; Monday 28th August! It will be bigger and better than previous years with all the normal favourites of free pony rides, face painting, bouncy castle and dance performance plus some new "Country Fair" activities. Combine that with a hog roast and cream teas and you've got a community day that mustn't be missed!