

## North Crawley Parish Bulletin - April 2021

Hi Folks, Steve here with a roundup of Parish Council work behind the scenes of our wonderful village.

It looks like we should have a full complement of Councillors at our next meeting as a new resident has volunteered to join the Council and has just been added to the electoral roll which allows him to be co-opted when we meet on 6th May.

We felt it would be helpful to have someone to coordinate notices and correspondence from the Police to ensure Parishioners and Councillors are kept up to date with issues related to Crime and Crime Prevention. Roz Hatton (who used to be a Councillor for many years) has kindly agreed to be our Crime Correspondent - so look out for information from her on the Community and PC Facebook pages as well as on our PC website. Thanks Roz!

A resident suggested we nominate The Cock Inn as an asset of Community Value. You will probably know the Cock has recently changed hands and we are all hoping it will thrive and do well under new management. However if it doesn't, there is the possibility it could be sold for alternative use. If it is listed as a Community Asset, the owners must give the village the option of coming up with a plan to buy it. No guarantees and no obligation of course, but it would be an option for us all to consider. We are going to look into doing this for the Cock Inn, the Chequers and the Village Shop - all of which are important assets to the community.

Activity on the Neighbourhood Plan has been held up whilst we await confirmation that we can have extra technical assistance to consider the ideas put forward from residents - and I'm pleased to say we have been granted that. We will be meeting (zoom) with AECOM, the consultants, on 19th May to go through all the options that could be considered feasible - and of course we will keep you all informed.

It was lovely to see the yellow ribbons on the trees to mark the day of reflection promoted by Marie Curie. Thanks to Councillors Sue and Jan for coming up with the initiative.

The Play Park Committee have received a grant of almost £10,000 from the Lottery which will be a great boost to their plans. They are hoping to work on the netting to protect the play park from cricket balls soon.

It was lovely to see the Little Book Library open and a big thank you to Claire and Andy Odell for building this and looking after it from now onward. Let's hope it's a popular new facility for the community. (It's located right behind the shop by the way!).

The Wild Flower bed in Nixey's Walk has been seeded and is starting to sprout now the weather is offering some much needed sunshine. The village school came up to help seed it, plant some pollinating plants and set up two hedgehog houses and a bug hotel. We hope they will be regular visitors to watch as the flowers and grasses grow over the summer. Di Morris is going to lead a group called NC Wildlife to curate the area and also identify other potential wildlife friendly projects around the Parish. No doubt the school will be heavily involved in those too!

I am hoping to organise a Bank Holiday Fun Day on August 30th 2021 so we can all enjoy a village event like we used to. So far we've got Cream Teas and BBQ (thanks to The Chequers), stalls from the Church and the School, "have a try" at the bowls club, Craft stall, fun and games with the Play Park Committee and, hopefully, (fingers crossed!), a Tractor rally, pony rides, face painting, mini Crufts, basketball, tug of war and all the things you'd expect at a country village fun day. Save the date and please - if you can possibly organise an activity please contact me ([stevegarnier@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:stevegarnier@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk)). The more the merrier!! It's worth pointing out that the Bowls Club really needs new members - even with no experience - so we can keep this wonderful facility in the village. So, if not before, give it a go in August!

We are in contact with the Archery Club that has set up in the copse adjacent to the Broadmead Ford. As a popular right of way runs past it, there is understandable concern that it must be totally safe and to that end we are seeking more information about Risk Assessments, Public Liability insurance and what planning permission (if any) may be required. The Club is very professionally run and is keen to help address any concerns residents may have.

Well, I think that's about everything for now. With lockdown easing, vaccinations rolling out and the weather on the turn, I'm hoping we can all look forward to simple pleasures with family and friends and a return to normality (more or less!!!).

Steve Garner

**Note from the Clerk:**

I have several copies of a leaflet which explains the new On Demand transport service recently set up by Milton Keynes Council (MK Connect). If anyone would like a copy of this leaflet, please contact me on [clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk) or on 01234 391501 and I will give you a copy.

Sheila Bushnell