

North Crawley Parish Council Bulletin

April 2022

Hi Folks, Steve here as usual with a roundup of your Parish Council activities.

We had an excellent turnout to have a look at the Marshall Aerospace consultation boards at the Institute. Originally they were only going to hold it at Cranfield but kindly agreed to hold a separate one for North Crawley, so a good turnout vindicated our request. There are mixed views on the prospect of Marshall moving to Cranfield. On the positive side, it will bring new highly skilled jobs into the area and a thriving apprenticeship scheme. On the down side, we will hear the aircraft and may experience an increase in traffic.

We are engaging with Marshall, Moulsoe Parish Council and Cranfield Parish Council to see if we can try to bring forward the Moulsoe by pass which would benefit all three villages. Our first meeting is likely to be in May and, as always, we will keep you up to date with any progress.

There is nothing more to be done at the moment in regard to the Brook End Travellers' site, unless there is any significantly unusual activity noticed there which should be reported to Milton Keynes (see the link on the PC website). These things take time and we have the complication of the local elections (5th May) which slows things down further. But please rest assured that the PC keeps the issue clearly in mind.

The Traffic Working Group (TWG) is continuing to consider options for reducing speed, volume and weight of traffic through the village. They need to collate reliable data and want to invest in a Speed Indicator Device (SID) - nowadays these are much more than a "smiley face" indicating you're within the speed limit - the latest devices can provide a lot of data regarding speed and volume of vehicles. They used to be provided by MKC - but, alas, no more! So the PC is contributing half the cost and the TWG aims to raise the other half via donation or grants.

The Ford at Broadmead has undergone something of a transformation with the silt dramatically reduced, a clear roadway up to the steps (which previously were inaccessible), wildflower seeds sown and several trees planted. The area was really battered by the recent storms and this has spruced it up a treat. This was all provided and carried out voluntarily by Cllr Derek Harpur - thanks Derek.

As we say thank you and goodbye to our long-standing "lollipop lady" Paula, it looks like we are in for a long wait until we see a replacement. MKC has decided to undertake a complete review of the School Crossing Patrollers (as they refer to them) so goodness knows when we will get the materials from them to advertise for the role. It's so important for our children and parents so we are enlisting the help of our Ward Councillors to see if we can speed things up a little.

The Playpark Committee have a small amount of funding left and have purchased two picnic benches and one will be installed near both of the play parks. What a lovely addition they will make to these amazingly popular installations.

Hopefully everyone received a leaflet giving an update on the Neighbourhood Plan. It has been delayed whilst we completed the Strategic (historic) Environmental Assessment. That is all done now and the leaflet explains the changes to some of the wording it has meant. You can view the whole Plan document online via the Parish Council website. We will hold a couple of "drop in" sessions in the Village Hall (9th April and 14th May between 10.30-12.30) if you want to ask the Steering Group any questions. The consultation process finishes on 16th May and, hopefully, the PC can vote on it at its June meeting.

Well, that's it for now - look out for notices with all the details of our Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations as we head toward Summer. Gosh! Is it that time already!?!?