

North Crawley Parish Bulletin - March 2023

Hi Folks, Steve here again with an update on Parish news and activities.

Following on from the successful Neighbourhood Plan, which has now been accepted as part of MKCC's formal development plan, we have now formed an Implementation Group. As I explained last month, this group will liaise with landowners and developers to try to ensure the plan is delivered taking into account all the issues of sensitivity that were raised during the development of the Plan itself. We will also keep you informed of the progress of the Plan and try to minimise any inconvenience during the construction phases. We will publish minutes on the Community Facebook page as well as the PC Website and we will set up a special email address so you can write in if there are any issues you want to raise.

So far only 1 "non-Councillor", Nic Sadeghi, has joined the Group with the remainder made up of 4 Parish Councillors. Fortunately, Nic was Vice Chair of the Steering Group so is in the ideal position to ensure continuity as we implement what we planned. Nic has kindly agreed to become Chair of the Implementation Group. We could really do with a couple more "non-Councillors" to join us - it won't take up much of your time and will make a huge difference to the success of the Group - please give it some thought. Nic or I would be happy to meet with you and reassure you that it won't be an onerous task!

The Winter Warmer Scheme is well underway now - so far around 19 residents have benefited from 70+ free cans of Soup, Rice Pudding or Custard whilst 3 blankets have been distributed. Let me know if you want a blanket and I'll pop it round to you. Any residual blankets and canned food budget left at the end of the "winter" season will be donated to food banks and homeless charities.

It's not long now until the King's Coronation on Saturday 6th May and we have plans for a **great day on the Sunday 7th that the whole family can join in**. In the morning there will be two creative workshops, both running from 10.30 until 12.30, in the Institute hosted by local artists. One workshop will be for all ages (from toddlers to Grandparents!) where you'll get advice about different art materials and guidance to help you produce a piece of artwork as a response to the Coronation celebrations and a selection of these works (or all if space allows) will be displayed in a gallery that afternoon (prizes for the best in 6 different age groups!). The other workshop is for anyone over 10 years old and will be a collaborative artwork project on a Coronation theme (probably of a procession). Again you'll be advised and encouraged by a local artist and the artwork will be displayed in the afternoon. **All this is free of charge.**

At lunchtime there will be stalls and games hosted by Friends of NC School (FONS) and from 2 – 4 pm there will be free tea, coffee and cake in the Club Room. Prize giving for the artwork will be at 3pm. Hopefully the weather will be nice which will allow us to picnic in the park during the day. The artwork will be photographed and framed as a memento of the day. Put the date in your diary and come and join in the fun!!!

The Parish Council is very aware of the distress caused to children and parents following the recent secondary school allocation. Whilst having no authority in this area, the PC will do whatever it can to support the case for children to be granted places in the catchment area academy they prefer and traditionally would have been offered.

It's not long until the Parish Council elections on May 4th. **Don't forget, you now need photo ID to vote (driving license or bus pass is fine)**. It looks like we will have a couple of vacancies and we really do need volunteers to come forward and help us do our bit for the Parish. If you saw the notice in SCAN, you will have read that there is much that goes on in the village that simply will not happen if the PC cannot continue. We are just residents who are volunteering to help make our village a nicer place to live - please spare us a couple of hours a month to keep our PC going. Application forms are available from the Clerk at 3 Folly Lane (clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk) - and you're welcome to give me a buzz (07973 192733) if you want to chat about it.