

North Crawley Parish Bulletin

November 2022

Hi Folks, Steve here again with an update on what's going on behind the scenes with your Parish Council.

Thanks to everyone who completed the biennial Parish Survey - we publish this every two years to get a feel for how we are doing and what our community feels are the priorities we should focus on. The number of responses was down by 30% compared to the last survey (that's a shame) but all the indicators are that we are doing OK as a Parish Council. The full survey (with comments) is available on the PC website but highlights are that 82% of respondents feel we are doing a good job (versus 71% last survey), 98% understand the role of the PC (compared with 74%) and 82% feel we communicate well compared to 67% last survey.

In terms of what we should focus on it is very similar to last survey, #1 priority "Controlling House Development 68% (versus 54%), #2 priority "Traffic Calming" 59% (versus 52%) and #3 priority "Village events such as concerts and Fairs" 41% (versus 46%). Hopefully our Neighbourhood Plan will address #1, our Traffic Working Group has been addressing #2 and we held our second Fun Day this year as well as the Jubilee celebrations which I guess counts toward #3.

Given the low response this year we will be coming up with an alternative (but comparable) survey in 2024.

Nothing to report on the Brook End nursery site until the New Year.

We aim to strengthen and support the footpath going through the Ford now more people are using it. We aim to make it "push chair" friendly as well as being suitable for horses, walkers and runners. Once again all credit to Derek Harpur who is doing all the work at no cost to the community. Thanks Derek!

As you will know by now we are going to change over to wheeled bins for all our waste and most households will end up with 4 of them by the end of 2023. We know the difficulties this will cause some people and we also are very aware of how untidy much of the village will look. We are not supportive of the planned change but have no authority to stop it. We are inviting MKCC to come to North Crawley and explain to you why the scheme is necessary which will give you a forum to ask any questions you may have about the scheme and the way it will operate. This will probably be in February 2023 and we will publicise the date as soon as we have it.

Our very own Footpath Warden, Terry Smith, has been invited to talk to the MK Local Access Forum about the excellent work carried out in North Crawley and how Terry liaises with the Rights of Way Officer at MK. He has also been asked to join the Forum as a regular member. Well done Terry and thanks for all the hard work keeping our footpaths open and in good condition (incidentally this was #4 priority in the recent Parish Survey).

We are hoping to get MKCC to repaint many of the "on road" road signs. So many have faded to become almost illegible. We have surveyed and photographed the worst ones and sent this package off the Highways for action. We await a response!!

We have posted some really useful links for people to use on the PC website - these relate to help that is available both from MKCC and the Government during the Cost of Living / Energy Cost crisis. Please make contact with anyone you know who may be in need and not have internet access so you can explain what help is available for them. This really is the time where we need to keep an eye out for our Neighbours and give a little support wherever possible.

We still have around 20 of the beautiful leather bookmarks produced for the Jubilee earlier this year. If anyone would like one (or two) please contact clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk.

Marshall Aerospace have submitted their Outline Planning Application (OPA) for their potential development of the Cranfield Airfield site. If you go to the PC website we have set up links so you can view all the documents and get a feel for the size, style and nature of the development. We also have a hard copy of the entire application (1000+ pages!) for anyone unable to view the documents online. If you want to borrow the documents for a read please make contact with Sheila, our Clerk, at 3 Folly Lane or by email on clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk. Meanwhile the PC is sending representatives to all the consultation meetings that are taking place.

That's it for now - please remember to keep alert to anyone who needs support - our wonderful community is our greatest asset at times like these. Thanks so much.