

North Crawley Parish Council

Bulletin - September 2024

Hi Folks, Steve here again and after a long summer break the Parish Council has met again as we prepare for a busy few months ahead.

Before we say a final goodbye to summer, there's still chance for me to thank everyone who contributed to the Fun Day and helped to make it such a lovely village focused event. Additionally, at long last, we have unveiled the new information board, in front of the church, which explains more about the Waste Ground and the surrounding properties. Thanks to Terry Smith and our village Historical Society for obtaining a grant to go toward the cost of the board and for their help in producing the wording.

I'm afraid we are still waiting for MKCC to install the new SID poles. We cannot order the equipment until we know the date the poles will be available so it's holding up the whole project. We'll keep nagging and hope we get them in during September - I'll keep you posted. Equally frustrating is the slow, almost glacial response of companies to fix the problem of the surface of the kiddies play park. As you may know the muddy squelchy parts have now grown a handsome crop of weeds - we know how important it is to get this sorted and, honestly, we're trying our best!

The Eastern expansion of Milton Keynes is still at consultation stage and at a presentation held during July it became clear that an area of the land included in the plan (which is near to North Crawley) has the capacity to house many thousands more houses than the housing targets for this area requires. This is disturbing as it is disingenuous to present proposed expansion numbers when the reality is very different. Needless to say, we will be making strong representations to have a more accurate document drawn up.

The Inquiry into the appeal by the Travellers occupying the Brook End nurseries site is nearing its final stages during September. It can sometimes take some months before a decision on the Inquiry is made and, of course, either side of the dispute will then have the right of appeal if the decision is not in their favour, so it is likely to be some time before we know the final outcome.

We continue to have the Young Fun draw at the end of each PC meeting - you may remember that we were given a sum of money to spend on youngsters in the village and we use that to present a lucky winner with a £30 cinema or book voucher. So, if your youngster is over 5 and under 16 make sure their name, address and date of birth are registered with Sheila, our Clerk and they too may end up as one of our many happy winners! Please email her on clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk with the details and include whether their child would prefer a cinema voucher or a book token.

You may have seen the anonymous article in the September SCAN regarding the Cranfield Rd flooding. Although the Parish Council has a rather different (and minuted) recollection of events, we are pleased that the responsible parties have now rectified the drainage issue which should help alleviate the problem.

Over the coming few months we will be developing the Parish Council budget for next year and, as usual, we will try to provide as wide a range of services and benefits as we can whilst keeping the costs firmly under control.

It's also the time of year to start thinking about your nomination for the 2024 Village Champion. Think about people who have made a real and positive contribution to the village over the course of the year (or, indeed, years gone by) and who deserve a special thank you. The winner receives a £50 voucher and a special Village Champion medal! Every resident can make one nomination and the person with the most nominations will win. Nominations can be submitted during the month

of November and we'll give you details of how to nominate in next month's bulletin. (Please note - serving Parish Councillors are not eligible for nomination).

Well, that's it for this month, and, as we move toward the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, let's keep a watchful eye out for each other and help wherever we can (as so many residents already do). It's what makes it such a wonderful place to live.