

# North Crawley Parish Council

## Bulletin May 2024

Hi Folks, Steve here with your round up of Parish Council news and activities.

After many months (indeed years!) of waiting our School now has funding available for a Crossing Warden and is on the lookout for someone in our village who will become one of the best-known people in our community, relied upon by children and parents for safe passage across our (very) busy High St. It is a very part time role but a wonderful way of interacting with so many people and would be something really meaningful to “give back” to the village. Could you be that person? Just pop an email through to Sheila, our Clerk, at [clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk) and she will make sure the School is made aware of your potential interest. Alternatively, further information about the role and details of how to apply for it can be found at the following link <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/110406/EDV-2024-NCCS-02121>. Please consider people you think would be ideal for this important role and maybe suggest that they give the idea some thought too?

We had an officer from MKCC join us at our meeting (arranged by our Ward Councillor) to hear our concerns about the time it takes for MKCC to acknowledge receipt of issues we raise let alone put some action into place. We went through quite a list, all of which included delays of months, if not years!! She has promised to look into this and encourage better communication all round. She also gave us some alternative methods of contacting MKCC which, of course, we will try.

The May Parish Council meeting was preceded by our Annual Parish Meeting, which is an obligatory meeting we must hold each year to provide a forum for residents to raise any or all issues they feel the PC should be focussing on over the next year or so. We advertise this meeting in SCAN and on Facebook but, unfortunately, no residents attended. It would be lovely to think this is because everything in the Parish is tickety boo - and we genuinely hope that is the case - but we will be discussing how we can attract more residents to attend and give us their views before next year's meeting.

We are very aware that the surface on some parts of the Kiddies play park needs attention as water collects under it and allows mud to squelch up, especially around the mini trampoline. Also, the edges between the green and black types of surface are widening in some instances. We had a meeting with the supplier back in January but only got a reply in May (!). Whilst they have offered to pay for all the repair work, they believe it will be important to install a drainage system under the surface first, which is a potentially significant cost. Naturally we will seek alternative views and try to get this all sorted (as economically as possible) before Autumn.

We have established there could be a 50% funding contribution to the cost of the solar panels for the SID via the Community Infrastructure Fund. As the panels and pole installations amount to a fairly chunky sum it would seem to make sense to apply for the grant. Unfortunately, it would mean that we need to wait until next April, when the grant funds are released, before we can go ahead but the cost savings seem worth the delay.

The zip wire at the adventure park is very popular with both the young (and not so young!) in the village and needs specialist tensioning from time to time. We will get a suitably qualified organisation to do this over the next couple of months.

The plans for the Top Croft field (H3 in the Neighbourhood Plan (NP)) and Maslin/Orchard Way sites (H4/5 in the NP) have all been submitted to MKCC and can be viewed on the planning portal (see link from the PC website). These 3 sites represent 80% of the entire NP and it is encouraging that things are progressing after such a positive vote in favour of the plan. The Implementation Group will continue to liaise with the developers to encourage them to follow the principles of the NP and minimise disruption when the build phase eventually begins.

Well, that's all for now folks - I can't believe it's only 3 months or so until the Summer Fun Day (August 26th) and it certainly feels like the seasons are turning... at long last!! (P.S. There's space for a couple more indoor craft stalls at the Fun Day - give me a call if you're interested!!)