

North Crawley Parish Council

Bulletin June 2024

Hi Folks, Steve here as usual with this month's summary of Parish Council news and activities.

At the time of writing, we have heard from the village school to say there are no applications so far for the role of Crossing Warden. Time is running out for applications (mid-July) following which the window for obtaining funding will have passed. We're going to put an advert in the July SCAN in case that reaches people who haven't heard of the opportunity, but I really encourage you to think of anyone you feel could be suitable for this role and ask them to consider making contact with the school. It's such an important role that could vanish from our village forever.

We have had some amazing news regarding our SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices). I reported last month that we were going to apply for a grant to allow us to upgrade our poles and batteries plus install Solar Panels. One of our residents, Richard Sykes, controls a fund, donated by his Stepmother, which has the goal of "doing good". Richard has kindly donated £10,000 from this fund to allow us to completely upgrade our SIDs! This means we can install the new solar panels on new poles, purchase new batteries and an additional SID, giving us 2. I'm sure I speak for our residents when I say how grateful we are for this kind and generous donation. As we had already allocated funds for some of this, we have decided to apply for matched funding next April and, if successful, purchase an additional 2 SIDs which will mean we will have a permanent SID located at all 4 of our village entrances.

We have now finalised the signage for the Waste Ground (the area between the Church and the High St) and should be receiving it by July. We will organise an "unveiling" once it has been installed. The sign will explain more about the historic centre of our village and how it became known as the Waste Ground. It is part of a plan to try and preserve some of these older village names and terms. We will also have a couple of robust versions of the large Village Map made for the two locations where it is currently displayed (bus shelter and Institute) as the paper versions fade very quickly.

Arlene, our PCSO has told us that there are more vehicle thefts taking place, especially keyless entry cars (fortunately none in our village so far, fingers crossed!). She stressed the need to keep keyless fobs in Faraday pouches (or a tin box will do) to stop thieves intercepting the signals from the fobs which allows them access to your vehicle. Thanks Arlene - good advice.

The Parish Council is responsible for the Churchyard (cemetery) and we have noticed the pathways between the headstones are in need of repair. We have now appointed someone to carry out this work which we hope will be completed before the end of July.

Plans are coming together for the Fun Day on 26th August - we have booked the miniature Ponies and a larger Pony for pony rides (free) and Bill Guntrip will DJ as usual, we have hired in a bouncy castle and giant ball pool (both free), Gary will be cooking his delicious Hog roasts, Tracey will have teas and cream teas on the go, we hope to have the tug of war again, there will be an open day at the Bowls Club, hopefully we will have kiddies sports events and Teya's youngsters performing their dance routine plus operating her famous Face Painting stall (free), Pardeep will be cooking up some of her tasty veggie Indian food and there will be the famous Church cake stall and craft stalls including Alpaca wool spinning in the hall. All we need is a half decent day weather wise and, of course, the most important part - YOU!! Hope you can pop up to the recreation park and join in the fun - a proper old-fashioned village event.

Well, that's all the main PC news stories for June - the month that ushers in official Summertime and the longest day (summer solstice) on 20th - I hope everyone has the chance to get out and enjoy our glorious countryside which is looking at its best this time of year.