

North Crawley Parish Council

Bulletin - September 2025

Hi Folks, Steve here with a roundup of Parish Council news and activities. After the long summer break the PC resumed with a meeting on 1st September and there was plenty on the agenda to go through.

First and foremost, we are delighted to announce that we have appointed our new Parish Clerk to take Sheila Bushnell's place when she steps down at the end of December. Her name is Taj Askey and she lives in Astwood. Taj has a lot of relevant experience and is able to take on both the Clerking and Financial duties (as Sheila does) which in many Parishes requires 2 separate people. We're particularly pleased that Sheila will work with Taj over the next 4 months, which should ensure that much of the invaluable experience Sheila has accumulated over her many years in the role can be passed on. Welcome Taj and, as always, thank you Sheila.

On the subject of the Parish Council just a reminder that we still have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor (and when I leave we will have another!) and we can't operate without Councillors - so, please, if you can spare a couple of hours a month to join us it would be great to hear from you - just contact any Councillor or, of course Sheila or Taj for more information.

We're starting to get data through from the Speed Indicator Devices (SID's) and the results are rather disturbing. All SIDs are detecting some cars speeding as they pass the device (which, unfortunately, we will always get) but in the case of Chicheley Rd and Brook End SIDs, two thirds of ALL cars are speeding as they pass! We have formed a small group of Councillors who will analyse the data, share the data with the relevant authorities and establish what support we can get to reduce speeding in the village.

We enjoyed magnificent weather on our village Fun Day at the end of August. The numbers at the Fun Day were lower than normal mainly because the bank holiday was relatively early this year and many families were still enjoying holidays (it's 31st August next year so numbers should be much better!). But everyone who joined us seemed to have a great time - as always, the pony rides and the face painting were really popular but the queues were far shorter! Gary's hog roasts were as popular as ever and the village shop sold plenty of ice cream and cold drinks. The church team did a splendid job with the cake stall and hot drinks whilst the bouncy castle was in constant use all afternoon. A big thank you to all the volunteers that made the day possible. As I will be leaving the village. I have now handed over the arrangements for next year's Fun Day to Laura Butterworth who has loads of ideas to make next year's event the best ever!!

The PC supports the introduction of a 20mph limit through the centre of the village, but we recognise not everyone feels the same. For that reason, we are undertaking a survey to establish how many residents would support the idea - if at least 50% agree we can then submit an application to join the queue of villages who also want a 20mph limit. We are hoping to complete the survey at the end of September.

Talking of surveys - some of you may recall we undertake a survey every couple of years asking your opinion of how the PC is meeting your needs and also what priorities we should be focusing on. We are currently updating the questions for the next survey which we hope will be with you in October. Please take a few minutes to complete it (either online or physically) as your feedback is vital to ensure we organise PC resources to best meet the needs of our residents.

Well, that's about it for now - it's a lovely time to be in our beautiful country village as the season once again turns to one of "mists and mellow fruitfulness".