

## North Crawley Parish Bulletin - September 2023

Hi Folks, Steve here with an update on Parish Council issues.

Well, the Fun Day was a great success, the weather was kind and it would seem everyone enjoyed themselves. May I say a big thank you to the awesome volunteers who make this day work - your time and efforts are really appreciated! We're already planning for next year (August 26th) and will be incorporating some new ideas and, hopefully more craft stalls, to make it bigger and better than ever!

I'm sure you've all picked up that London Rd (linking J14 with Newport Pagnell) will be closed from 25th September for A YEAR!! We had been told it might close for 6 months at some time but we're given less than a months' notice that it had been doubled! As this development (and others in the pipeline) are likely to go on for the next 20 years (!) we are working with our Ward Councillors to set up a forum that will meet, probably quarterly, so we can hear about progress and what is planned and then ask questions. We can then let residents know, hopefully in advance, what is coming up and when. Meanwhile I'm afraid we all face 12 months of traffic chaos every time we go to CMK, Willen or J14.

Of course, all this upcoming development will put a strain on school places, as we have recently witnessed with this year's intake for Ousedale. Currently new schools are planned but no date has been set for them to be built. This will be something we will be pressing for once this "Forum" has been set up.

MKCC is still faffing over how the School Crossing Patrol funding application will work - hopefully schools will be able to bid for the funds to provide one soon. We are keeping close contact with our school over this as they will need to bid for the grant and employ the person but we will help in any way we can. We know how important this role is to all parents whose children need to cross the High St at school time.

We are still waiting for developers to provide plans for the houses approved as part of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP). One developer is apparently close to completing their plan and, as soon as they have, they will share them with the Implementation Group so we can ensure they broadly comply with the NP itself.

A Public Inquiry is to be held from 17th October into the encampment on the nursery at Brook End. It is likely to last several days. The PC submitted a written statement 18 months ago regarding its concerns and may now be invited to discuss these. As soon as we have details of the Inquiry, we will publish them so that any resident who wants to get involved can do so.

The Parish Council has been given a modest amount of money which was left over from when we had a youth club in the village. We are working on a plan to use it in such a way that young people in the Parish will benefit from it and I hope to explain some detail in the next bulletin.

I'm delighted to say we have a resident who has expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council. Assuming that all goes ahead they will be appointed at the October meeting. That will bring us back up to full strength... but we already know there is likely to be a vacancy later this year so (sorry for being boring!) please think about joining us - it's just a couple of hours a month and some reading in between meetings. Give me a buzz if you want to chat about it.

Well, that's it for now as we welcome the season of "mists and mellow fruitfulness" as Mr Keats would say.