

North Crawley Parish Council Parish Bulletin October 2023

Hi Folks, Steve again with your monthly update of Parish Council issues.

At our October meeting we were delighted to confirm that Jim Armstrong was co-opted as a Parish Councillor. Jim has a wealth of experience in our community and we welcome his contribution to our future debates and decisions. This brings our Council up to full strength again but, we know we are likely to have a vacancy over the next 6 months so, as always, if you could spare us a couple of hours a month please get in touch with me or Sheila Bushnell, our Clerk.

I'm sure we all agree that the steel barrier on the left side of Crawley Rd heading toward the village from Newport Pagnell is in a terrible state. It seems unsafe and is certainly an eyesore. We have repeatedly asked MKCC to repair it but unfortunately we are not getting a response. So, as usual, we will try, try and try again!!

I'm pleased to report that the Neighbourhood Plan Implementation Group is having its first meeting with one of the developers during October. Naturally we will keep you updated with any news especially when firm plans are being finalised.

Our PCSO, Arlene, confirmed there had been zero crime reported in our Parish over the last month. She also explained that she will, temporarily, be looking after many more villages so please bear that in mind if you are making contact.

Well done to the IMC (especially Teresa) for finally getting the cricket ball stop nets installed ready for next year.

The Speed Indicator Device (SID) is still being moved around the village to deter speeding and monitor speed levels. It uses a rechargeable battery which requires replacing every 2 or 3 days. Fortunately we have a few of us who share the task of changing the batteries but we are exploring a more sustainable route of using solar panels to power the SID. Unfortunately the panels, which are quite expensive, are not moveable and there are 5 locations for the SID. We are currently considering what our options are - but meanwhile we will battle on with the batteries!

The PC own 3 main areas of "Green Space" in the Kilpin Green/ Orchard Way area - the planted area that runs along half of Orchard Way, the Green itself on Kilpin Green and Nixeyes Walk. We pay to have these areas tended and looking pleasant so they form a public amenity. Understandably we have a policy that no parking is allowed on them but unfortunately we have recently noticed incidents of vehicles being parked fully on grassed areas. We really don't want to have to put "No Parking" signs up as they would detract from the nature of the areas - so please help us keep our village looking attractive by ensuring no vehicles are parked on these areas.

We have been given a modest fund to spend on our younger residents and will launch the "Young Fun" scheme from December 1st to do just that! The scheme is for young people aged between 5 and 16. We ask parents or guardians to register children for the scheme and each month we will draw a name who will receive either a £30 book token or a £30 Cineworld voucher. The scheme will run for 2 years after which it will be reviewed. Please see the separate notice in SCAN and on Facebook for the scheme rules and how to register your child. Information will also be on the Parish Council website. Have fun!!

We aim to hold a special event in Spring 2024, in collaboration with the Historical Society, where we will unveil a board which explains the history of "The Waste Ground" (the area in front of the Church) which is officially our Village Green. There will be a "historical walk" around the village and an exhibition to give everyone the chance of learning more about the rich history of our village. We also aim to produce a booklet with explanations of the history and historic names around the village so that, hopefully, they will not be lost in the sands of time. More details to follow!!

Well, that's about it for now. Coo-er! with Halloween and Fireworks just around the corner it's suddenly feeling like Autumn has properly arrived!