

North Crawley Parish Council

Bulletin - December 2024

Hi Folks, Steve here with the last bulletin of the year, and with no SCAN in January, this one is for Facebook and the website only!

MKCC looks likely to increase Council Tax by around 5% but, at the same time, cut back on several areas of current expenditure. One proposal, which will be included in the budget consultation, is the closure of the Newport Pagnell recycling and waste centre. Please try to make sure you add your own views (for or against this and other proposals) when the budget consultation is made public early in 2025.

As you will have no doubt noticed, there is still a degree of flooding occurring shortly after leaving the village on the Cranfield Rd. It is certainly better than it was (due in no small part to the efforts of Cllr Harpur) but there is still work to be done. This responsibility falls with the Lead Local Flooding Authority, (under the control of MKCC) who have promised to ensure this project is completed (hopefully before next winter!!).

I'm sure we are all concerned for the safety of children crossing the High St, especially now it has become so busy. We've been told of a "near miss" that occurred last month and we are seeking any evidence we can use to present to MKCC. It is tempting to think that a Pelican Crossing would resolve the problem. However, realistically people cross at many different points along the High St depending upon where they are heading so a single point wouldn't be sufficiently effective and would certainly impact on the rural streetscape. One idea we want to explore in the new year is to change the 30mph limit to a 20mph zone. Such a change will involve MKCC as well as Thames Valley Police and might take some time to achieve. Once we understand what is involved, we will ask for your opinions before going any further.

Our clerk, Sheila, and I (along with any available Councillors) will be meeting Chris Curtis, the new Labour MP for MK North (of which North Crawley is part), in early March '25. This isn't a public meeting and the purpose is to introduce himself to the PC and hear how he can help with any issues we face. If you have any (reasonable) questions you would like us to put to him, please email them to Sheila on clerk@northcrawley-pc.gov.uk Nothing party political please!!

We are also meeting with a property developer, Hallam Land, who want to have an early consultation regarding their "emerging plans" for the MK50 expansion plan. Given this plan is still under public consultation, and will follow on behind the MK East development, it seems a tad premature but nonetheless we are happy to meet and hear what they have to say. I will give you feedback via this bulletin, probably in the March edition as our meeting is late January.

We have been told the SID poles will be installed before Christmas - but... if I were a betting man....!! It's a bit frustrating that the whole scheme to set up this speed reduction initiative has been held up for over 6 months whilst we await MKCC installing 5 poles (which they charge us for!). 🙄

Well, there's just room to wish everyone in our Parish a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2025 on behalf of your Parish Council. We are so fortunate to live in such a lovely and dynamic part of the country and within such a supportive community. Hope to see you at the Carol Singing on 20th December, 5.30pm at the Church Lychgate. Meanwhile I look forward to catching up with you on PC activities on the other side of all the fun and festivities. 🎉