



Hello from your councillors



John Ford

Hi Everyone I have been a parish councillor for a couple of years now, representing the Gally Hill ward. I serve on the planning committee and have recently taken over from Michael Burford as our representative on the War Memorial Committee. I am also one of two representatives on the Farnborough Airport Consultative Committee and together with our Chairman Gareth Saunders we seek to ensure your voice is heard, particularly regarding the recent expansion plans.

With the nights drawing in, we are all turning our thoughts to preparing for the colder weather. But at the council, we are already planning projects for next year and one is of particular interest to me.

I recently attended a meeting at Chesilton Woods which is located on the corner of Portland Drive and Chesilton Crescent in Church Crookham. Here we discussed how to breathe new life into this area for the benefit of local residents. For various reasons the site has not received the care it deserves over a number of years, but that is now set to change. We plan to tidy up the perimeter and make this area much more appealing. Further, in the heart of the woods, local experts are formulating the work required to remove a number of invasive species of plants. This together with thinning trees, as advised for woodland management reasons, will create a much more open environment and allow us to look at how we can best make use of this area. We will be consulting with local residents in the near future.

And on the subject of trees, we are planning to plant a special tree in celebration of the coronation of King Charles. Watch out for more information.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at our Christmas event on Saturday 2nd December from 12pm, at the Church Crookham Community Centre, where Santa will once again be visiting with treats for the children. Have a pleasant Autumn.

John Ford

Key Dates

Parish Council Meeting Dates
Meetings held at the Church Crookham Community Centre.
NOVEMBER:
27th - Planning Committee meeting at 7.30pm, followed by Full Council meeting at 8pm
DECEMBER:
11th - Planning Committee meeting at 7.30pm
There is no full council meeting in December

In this issue

- Page 2**
- CAP Life Skills Course
 - Meet your PCSO
 - Gardening Club
- Page 3**
- Pumpkin safe disposal
 - Tree Planting
 - Litter-Picking in Church Crookham
 - Farnborough Airport
- Page 4**
- Community Christmas Event



CAP Life Skills Course

Learn practical tools to help you live well on a low income every day. CAP Life Skills is a friendly group that will give you the confidence and decision-making skills needed to live on a low income. The course is designed to be a fun and relaxed place where you'll meet other people in similar situations, who understand you and can encourage you. They will also give you top tips for dealing with life's pressures and help you take control of your future.

The group in Church Crookham run three courses per year and the next course will start in February 2024 and will run over eight weekly sessions. They are based from the Church Crookham Community Centre on Wednesday evenings and the course is free of charge. These sessions happen in a relaxed environment with a mixture of practical activities and informal discussions.

If you would like more information or to book a place, please contact Jan via email at: fleet@caplifeskills.org.uk

Introducing your PCSO

Meet Sam - she is your friendly PCSO. Sam is here to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, listen to your concerns about our neighbourhood and community and initiate and support projects to improve the area. You can email Sam at: Sam.page@hampshire.police.uk for advice or with any concerns or questions that you may have.



You can contact your local Neighbourhood Policing Team on 101 or find and email your local team online using the postcode search at: www.hampshire.police.uk



We Built a Community Garden!

The community Sensory Garden, outside the community centre, on Crookham Park is now complete. It has been such a pleasure to build the garden for you to enjoy. It has plenty of seating for you to sit quietly and relax within the array of beautiful plants and trees. Based just under the very old oak trees, there is always a variety of birds around and it is wonderful to sit and listen to them. The garden is open to everyone and is fully

accessible, so do pop along to explore it.

A huge thank you to all of the wonderful resident volunteers who responded for our pleas for help. The team of helpers have helped with the concept and design of the garden in the initial stages and then worked hard to get the plants in the ground. They also pop by regularly to keep it looking so lovely doing a little weeding, dead heading and planting.

Gardening is a great way of getting out in the fresh air, meeting other people and keeping you moving. We are looking to grow our group of gardening volunteers, so if you can help - once a year, once a month or once a week then we would like to hear from you.

Email Rebecca at events@churchcrookham.org.uk for more information.

It is a very friendly, informal group and there is no pressure to commit regularly.



Pumpkins Galore!

Now that pumpkin season is upon us, we have found that pumpkins are being left around the parish, in what seems to be well meaning but misguided attempts to provide food for birds and other wildlife.

The Woodland Trust and the Forestry Commission have both warned, in the past, that the fruit can lead to serious problems for animals - including, hedgehogs, foxes, badgers and birds and that it can spread disease.

Please refrain from leaving them in areas where animals will feed on them.



Tree Planting



We have been busy planning tree planting and are pleased to let you know that approx. 120 + trees will be planted across Church Crookham by the end of the winter.

Following tree works, some trees had to be removed so we are fulfilling our commitment to replace these by planting above and beyond numbers removed.

The trees will be a mix of approx. 80 established whips with the remainder larger specimens and will be planted around all parish owned sites.

We will then provide the after care required so that the trees can thrive.

Species include Beech, Maple, Lime, Hornbeam and Tulip trees.

Litter-Picking



Alfie is a litter-picking hero!

A huge thank you to Alfie, 10, who adopted one of our litter-pickers and has been using it to regularly litter-pick in Church Crookham ever since! Well done Alfie - what a community champion you are!

If you think you could commit to doing some regular litter-picking, we would be very happy to supply you with litter-pickers and a hi-vis vests. Pop in to see us at the parish council office at the Church Crookham

Community Centre on Boyce Road, Crookham Park or

give us a call on 01252 626793 to reserve yours.

Together we can keep Church Crookham clean and tidy.

Farnborough Airport

Church Crookham Parish Council was pleased to host an event in addition to the formal Farnborough Airport Consultation events on October 8th. This was well attended by County, District and Parish Councillors as well as other local interest groups. 56 residents attended to ask questions and voice their concerns over the expansion proposals.

Keep an eye out for more information. Parish Councillors will be attending the next airport meeting early November.

Keep in Touch



Follow us on Facebook at:

Church Crookham Parish Council

Church Crookham Community
Centre

And keep up to date with our news,
community projects and local events.

Santa Claus is coming to town!

You are warmly invited to join us at our annual festive community event on **Saturday 2nd December from 12pm to 4pm**



at

The Church Crookham Community Centre

Boyce Road, GU52 8AQ

Santa will be back in Church Crookham (from 12pm to 3pm) to hand out his chocolate treats to all the children who pop along and visit him and his magic train.

There will also be a festive Christmas market, situated inside at the Church Crookham Community Centre, with lots of local stall holders selling a variety of beautiful crafted items for those last minute Christmas gifts!

Mulled wine, hot chocolate, festive coffees, mince pies—all you need to get you in the Christmas spirit!



This is a free event.
Parking will be limited.

