

Church Crookham Parish Council

NEWSLETTER

Issue 38

January 2022

Hello from the Chair

Happy New Year!

I hope that everyone was able to enjoy a restful Christmas break. Our festive event, held at the community centre in late November, was a roaring success with over 600 residents attending. Thank you to all our volunteers who make these events possible.



Richard Martin

2022 is a busy year for the parish council as our elections are due to be held in May. In this newsletter you will see details of some of the key initiatives and projects that the parish council has been involved in during 2021 and has planned for 2022. Could you bring any expertise to these local initiatives and issues? Have you ever considered how you could contribute to your local community and make a difference? Some of our current councillors will be standing for re-election, but there will also be vacant seats that need to be filled and I invite you to consider standing in one of the parish's three wards: Gally Hill, Church Crookham East, and Queen Elizabeth. Please feel free to talk to our Parish Clerk, Claire (01252 939450) or any of our Councillors if you want to find out more about what is involved.

Here's to a healthy and happy 2022!

Regards

Richard

Diary Date

We have teamed up with the Fleet Lions to bring you a spectacular event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on **Saturday 4th June 2022.**



We hope to have sports coaching and displays at our skate park, tennis courts and all weather pitch on Crookham Park to celebrate our wonderful community sporting facilities available to everyone.

There will also be live music, food vans and residents are welcome to bring their picnic blankets and deck chairs to the green at the rear of the community centre.

Watch out for more details by liking our Facebook pages or checking our website:

www.churchcrookham.org.uk

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KEY DATES

- For parish council meetings, please refer to the website for confirmation on timings and venue (www.churchcrookham.org.uk)
- **Monday 24th January** - Planning committee meeting followed by Full Council meeting
- **Monday 14th February** - Planning committee meeting
- **Saturday 26th February** - Athletics' club consultation event (9.30am to 1pm, at Church Crookham Community Centre)
- **Monday 28th February**—Planning committee meeting followed by Full Council meeting
- **25th March to 10th April** - The Great British Spring Clean
- **Saturday 4th June** - Queen's Platinum Jubilee event at the Church Crookham Community Centre and surrounding sports facilities

Your Community

Community Action Bulb Planting Event - On 23rd October the parish council held another successful bulb planting morning. We were joined by councillors and residents who planted 750 bulbs along the Gurkha path, within Crookham Park. The 101st Church Crookham Beavers group also helped out by planting lots of bulbs around the community centre.



101st Church Crookham Beavers Group also planted lots of bulbs - what superstars!

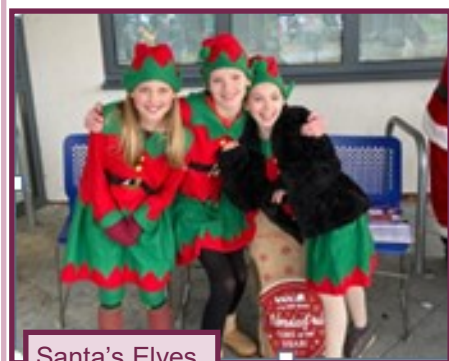
Come the Spring, these areas are bound to look stunning when the big bright yellow daffodils come through. A huge thank you to all those who volunteered their time. Church Crookham will now be brighter and even prettier in March and April thanks to you!



Our brilliant volunteers who kindly helped us plant hundreds of bulbs in Church Crookham

If you are interested in volunteering with our community action events or you know of any area in Church Crookham that could benefit from some tender loving care, please do get in touch by emailing events@churchcrookham.org.uk or calling 01252 626793.

A Very Merry Christmas in Church Crookham! - On Saturday 27th November the parish council held a special free festive event at Church Crookham Community Centre. We were visited by Santa on his sleigh and his reindeers! Santa met with over 200 local



Santa's Elves

children on the day, who braved the weather to come out and tell him what they wanted for Christmas. Santa was helped by



Local children met Santa and his reindeer

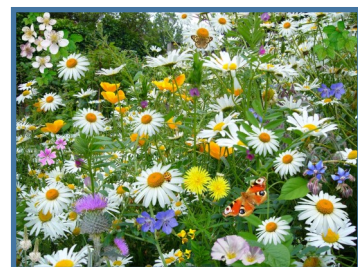
a band of merry elves who handed out special chocolate treats to all. There was also a busy Christmas market that was supported by lots of local stall holders selling a variety of beautiful, artisan wares. A huge thank you to all of our volunteers on the day, who helped bring the magic of Christmas to Church Crookham.



Do look out for future events like this one on our website and our Facebook pages.

Wild Flowers in Church Crookham

The parish council looks forward to a splash of colour at a few locations in Church Crookham next Spring. The ground will be prepared in March for the wildflower seed mix to be sown and then wait for nature to take its course and put on a wonderful display. These will provide vital havens of biodiversity supporting a number of species from butterflies, bees and other insects as well as birds and small mammals.



Find the locations using the App What3words:



sticks.wriggled.blanket - Open space at Kukri Gardens off Naishes Lane

braved.slant.woof - Open space off Gregory Drive

sunset.diplomas.gallons - Open space off diverted Gurkha path to rear of Nugent Close

We hope you enjoy seeing nature at its best!

Parish Council Election Year 2022

Church Crookham parish councillors will be standing down from their roles ahead of the elections on May 5th 2022.

Have you ever considered how you could contribute to your local community and make a difference? This could be your time. There will be vacancies and we invite you to consider standing in one of the three wards of the parish council:

Gally Hill Ward

Church Crookham East Ward

Queen Elizabeth Ward

What could you contribute to the parish council?

You will hopefully have got a sense of what initiatives the parish council has been involved in through the reading of our newsletter. Could you bring any expertise to the following local initiatives and issues...

- Peter Driver Sports Ground pavilion refurbishment
- Working with bus groups to improve routes and bus usage through the parish
- Champion a greener Church Crookham
- Ensure delivery of a beautiful Sensory Garden and ongoing upkeep and maintenance

We are looking for community minded people to represent the whole community of Church Crookham...is that you?

Please feel free to talk to our Parish Clerk, Claire on 01252 626793, or one of our Councillors if you want to find out more about what is involved.

The Great British Spring Clean

Once again, we have litter-pickers at our HQ needing good homes. If you can 'adopt a litter-picker' please get in touch.

You can then use it to litter-pick when it suits you.

Litter-pickers will be available from the beginning of March. Please email events@churchcrookham.org.uk or call **01252 626793** to arrange to pick one up.



**25 MARCH -
10 APRIL 2022**

Tree Planting in Church Crookham

The parish council is very excited to be working with the wonderful team from Fleet Lions. They have approached us to see if we can make land available for a tree planting initiative they are planning to run through our local schools. This is all part of the Queens Green Canopy in celebration of the Platinum Jubilee, for which there will be many planned celebrations this year.



School children will obtain sponsorship money, in support of their school, to enable a tree to be purchased in their name and they will be involved in planting that tree in a specific designated local area. They will know where they planted their tree as they will be given a What3words locator and will be able to visit it as it grows over the coming years.

The parish council has agreed to find suitable locations around the parish to ensure that the Fleet Lions project is a thriving success.

If you are related to children who go to one of our local schools listen out for news on this exciting project which will benefit the environment of Church Crookham in the long term and maybe support the initiative by pledging some sponsor money to support the school as well.

Athletics Track

As in our September 2021 newsletter the parish council was pleased to confirm that positive progress is being made towards delivery of the grass athletics track within Crookham Park. The grass continues to be nurtured by Kestrel Contractors over the winter months to ensure that the track can be open for use later this year.



The local athletics club, currently based at the Peter Driver Sports Ground, have long voiced a desire to have their club base at or close to the new track and discussions have been held with the parish council. The parish council is keen to understand the level of support from the wider community in Church Crookham.

The Fleet & Crookham Athletic Club is hosting an open drop-in event on **Saturday 26th February from 9.30am to 1pm at the Church Crookham Community Centre**, so please pop in to find out what the club's plans look like. This will be your opportunity to give your feedback on these plans before the club move forward to submit any form of planning application.

Members of the club will be on hand to explain their vision as well as representatives of the parish council all waiting to receive your opinions. We look forward to seeing you.

Peter Driver Sports Pavilion Refurbishment

The pavilion is an ageing building, energy inefficient compared to modern standards and currently only offers changing rooms and shower rooms for football teams using the pitches.

Is there an interest in the community for an extended, more efficient, building perhaps offering more inside spaces to hire to run classes and groups for the wider community? We want to hear from you whether the answer is YES or NO. Feedback from you as residents is an important element to the decisions made by the parish council especially determining the best way to spend the budget ear-marked for this project.

You can let us know what your thoughts in a number of ways:

- Online questionnaire at www.churchcrookham.org.uk/council/projects
- Via email to clerk@churchcrookham.org.uk
- Call the parish office on 01252 626793



The pavilion building

Church Crookham Parish Council

The Church Crookham Community Centre, Boyce Road, Church Crookham, GU52 8AQ

Office Telephone: 01252 626793 Website: www.churchcrookham.org.uk



CHURCH CROOKHAM
PARISH COUNCIL