

# CRAWLEY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



[www.crawley-hampshire.org.uk](http://www.crawley-hampshire.org.uk)

No 201 January 2022

## Parish Council Updates

### Platinum Jubilee

If you have ideas for an event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and require the help of the parish council – for example, road closure, please let us know. A wild cherry tree has been planted in the recreation ground in commemoration of the occasion.

### Crawley Litter Picking Group

Patricia Elkington has taken the initiative to form and oversee a group of volunteers to help with clearing the litter along the road verges around Crawley and the group is affiliated to Winchester Litter Pickers. The first litter pick on 2 January was well attended by both adults and children and as a result the verges in the immediate vicinity look noticeably clear of rubbish.

If you are interested in helping with future litter picks please contact Patricia by email: [elkslc@btinternet.com](mailto:elkslc@btinternet.com) or look on the Crawley Village Facebook page.

### Winchester Movement Strategy

The public consultation on the latest proposals to come out of the Winchester Movement Strategy continues until 11th February 2022. The Strategy is intended to reduce congestion, support the local economy and improve the environment of Winchester. The Councils are asking for your views on 10 possible projects that include a new Park and Ride car park to the North of the city, changes to the one-way system, prioritising bus traffic along Andover Road and improvements to cycle routes across the city. You can submit your views at: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/winchester-movement-strategy>

### Making Crawley More Biodiverse

During the past year, Crawley Parish Council, has changed its mowing strategy in some of the village's communal areas in a move to increase biodiversity.

Following advice from local residents with conservation expertise, the PC created a number of reduced-mow areas within the village. The aim being to allow a greater variety of native wildflowers to take hold and support more insect and wildlife.

#### The Playground and Recreation area

During the first lockdown, when very little mowing happened, we were lucky to find that four species of native orchid had taken the opportunity to grow and flower. Realising the recreation area was attractive to wildflowers and grasses, we allocated two no-mow locations to see if more biodiversity could be achieved.

A year on, it is encouraging to see that three orchids (two Bee Orchids and one Pyramidal Orchid), moved from a mown area, have responded well. All but one of the Orchids flowered in 2021 and a new one also appeared. This shows the area is suitable for wildflowers and that a low-mow approach will work.

The second area, found by the trees, is taking longer to establish due its shady location and lower species-richness. Whilst off to a less advantageous start, reduced mowing did allow more wildflowers to appear last summer. We will watch how it develops in 2022.

These reduced mow areas are cut in the autumn/early winter and any arising removed. This reduces nutrients that would discourage wildflower growth.

#### The Pond

The Parish Council is continuing to look at ways to improve the natural biodiversity of the pond area. With a high population of fish and ducks in residence, it remains a challenge to find suitable planting, but we are working on it. Encouragingly, our ecology expert found some White Helleborine Orchids opposite the pond and staked them out to avoid a mowing calamity.

## Churchyard

This year, there will be three no-mow areas in the church yard. This includes a small patch of Meadow Saxifrage, now recognised as a UK declining species.

## What Next?

It is worth noting that many Crawley residents have been well ahead of the Government biodiversity movement and already established wildflower sites on their properties. However, there is always more that can be done. Mowing a little less and increasing the number of low-mow areas across the district within our own gardens, farmland, church yards and communal areas would make a difference.

As individual households, there are some small actions we can take to do 'our bit':

- Hang up a bird box and/or insect hotel
- Don't tidy all your garden, leave a pile of leaves and twigs for hedgehogs
- Mow less during the summer
- Choose native species when making plant choices
- Provide a little water for birds and small mammals
- If you have space, create a wildflower meadow. Visit the RSPB web site for info on [how to create a meadow](#)

## **Village Library**

We hope to open the library on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March (3.15 p.m) Confirmation will follow nearer the time to regular attendees and also on the Village FB page.

## **Police and Neighbourhood Watch**

Unfortunately there are still many "Covid" scams about -plus "Microsoft" and "Amazon" calls are doing the rounds again. If in any doubt hang up!

Also the nearby villages and dog walking car park sites i.e Stockbridge Downs/Farleigh Mount/ Chilbolton are being targeted by car thieves. Do NOT leave anything in your car at all overnight if parked on the road or when at a dog walking car park.

If you have not yet joined the Village Neighbourhood Watch group and would like to please contact Alison Carey – [alisonmc96@yahoo.com](mailto:alisonmc96@yahoo.com) - 776534

This is our current Police team (officially called Winchester Rural )

PC 28364 Victoria McCallum - 07795454351

PCSO 15075 Michelle Wilkinson – 07901102292

PCSO 13466 Kerry Croutear – 07976962677

(N.B Michelle and Kerry job share )

The Winchester Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team email address is [winchester.rural.police@hamphire.police.uk](mailto:winchester.rural.police@hamphire.police.uk)

Please do not report a crime by email, but visit the Hampshire Constabulary website to report online or phone 101 or 999 as appropriate.

## **Contacts and Diary Dates**

### City and County Councillors

Caroline Horrill: email [CHorrill@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:CHorrill@winchester.gov.uk) or telephone 01962 776844.

Stephen Godfrey: email [sgodfrey@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:sgodfrey@winchester.gov.uk) or telephone 01962 884477.

Patrick Cunningham: email [pcunningham@winchester.gov.uk](mailto:pcunningham@winchester.gov.uk) or telephone 01962 883887.

Jan Warwick: email [jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk](mailto:jan.warwick@hants.gov.uk) or telephone 07717104236.

### Meetings

The next parish council meeting will take place on Monday 21 March 2022 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The Annual Parish Meeting is Monday 25 April 7pm. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

There will be a guest speaker and drinks and nibbles will be available.

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## **Members of the Parish Council and their responsibilities**

Cllr Tim Anderson	Chair, Trees	07799663928	<a href="mailto:tim@crawley-hampshire.org.uk">tim@crawley-hampshire.org.uk</a>
Cllr Rina Hall	Highways, Footpaths	776083	<a href="mailto:rina@crawley-hampshire.org.uk">rina@crawley-hampshire.org.uk</a>
Cllr Henrietta Boucher	Biodiversity & Climate Change, Planning	776031	<a href="mailto:henrietta@crawley-hampshire.org.uk">henrietta@crawley-hampshire.org.uk</a>
Cllr Fred Fratter	Finance, Mowing	776243	<a href="mailto:fred@crawley-hampshire.org.uk">fred@crawley-hampshire.org.uk</a>
Cllr Paul Whiteley	Burial Ground & War Memorial		<a href="mailto:paul@crawley-hampshire.org.uk">paul@crawley-hampshire.org.uk</a>
Alison Carey	Neighbourhood Watch	776534	<a href="mailto:alisonmc96@yahoo.com">alisonmc96@yahoo.com</a>
Richard Leather	Playground Warden		<a href="mailto:richardleather.crawleyipc@gmail.com">richardleather.crawleyipc@gmail.com</a>
Martin White	Cricket Warden	776817	<a href="mailto:martin@thinkers.co.uk">martin@thinkers.co.uk</a>
Tim Duncan -Smith	Pond Warden		<a href="mailto:tim@duncan-smith.com">tim@duncan-smith.com</a>
Nicola Breen	Clerk	776909	<a href="mailto:clerk.crawley@parish.hants.gov.uk">clerk.crawley@parish.hants.gov.uk</a>