



ARBORFIELD GARRISON STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

Redrow Homes has submitted a reserved matters planning application for development of Parcels H, I and J. We expect to see proposals for further Parcels coming forward shortly.

The maps at the link below give a helpful overview of how the development is moving forward.

www.wokingham.gov.uk/major-developments/arborfield-progress-map/

Local information

- **Community Assets**

We are delighted that the Queen's Oak Public House has now been listed as an Asset of Community Value, and are grateful to all the residents and community groups who offered their support for our nomination.

We expect and hope that the Queens Oak will continue to be a thriving business for years to come, but now that the Pub is listed as a Community Asset we will be able to step in should it come up for sale, and will have 6 months to try and find a way to ensure that the Pub continues to be a place for the community.

- **BT Box**

The red telephone box at the California Crossroads is the last remaining one in the Parish. British Telecom has recently agreed that we can adopt the box, so it will be decommissioned as a telephone box shortly. We are considering other uses for the box - if you have any ideas do let us know.

Councillor vacancy

As reported in our last newsletter we have a vacancy on the Council due to the resignation of Geoff Markham who has moved out of the area. In accordance with Section 87 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972 the process of filling the vacancy starts with a period of 14 days within which 10 electors can give notice that they wish a By-Election to be called. If no such notice is given the Parish Council can fill the post by co-option.

For the first time in many years a By-Election has been called by 10 Finchampstead electors and an election to fill the vacancy will now take place on 8 June 2017, the same date as the General Election.

Wokingham Borough Council will publish the Notice of Election shortly, and nomination packs will then be available from Wokingham Borough Council. Please note that nomination packs can only be collected from and returned to the Borough Council, not the Parish Council.

If you have any queries about the process or would like an informal discussion about the role of a Councillor please get in touch with the Clerk at clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk or telephone 0118 9088164.

Rights of Way and cycling

We are seeing more and more cyclists using our local footpaths. Although cyclists can use bridleways, it is illegal to cycle on footpaths. If you are unsure which paths are bridleways please contact us for a rights of way map - details overleaf. You can also download a copy from our website www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk



Fleet Hill and Manor Farm restoration

Following many years of mineral extraction on the sites either side of Longwater Road we are now seeing the restoration progress on the Fleet Hill Farm site, and this will be followed by restoration on Manor Farm during 2018. The sites will be restored with a series of lakes, reed-beds, grassland and other habitats for nature conservation, and there will be public access through a network of new footpaths and bridleways. These paths will link with the wider rights of way network outside the sites. The sites - and also Moor Green Lakes - will eventually be taken over by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds or RSPB, but Moor Green Lakes will continue to be managed by the existing volunteer group. We all look forward to having these new sites available for residents to enjoy.

Visit www.mglg.org.uk for information about Moor Green Lakes, events, activities and how to get involved.

Police and Crime Plan

Anthony Stansfeld, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley has recently published his new five year Police and Crime Plan for 2017– 2021 which sets out the priorities for policing and other crime reduction organisations across the Thames Valley, including the response to regional and national threats.

This new Plan focuses on many new and emerging issues for policing but more traditional crimes such as household burglary and rural crime will also remain a priority. The Plan consists of five broad strategic priorities which are:

1. **Vulnerability** – Managing demand on services through working together with a particular focus on mental health, elder abuse, hidden abuse, and the criminal justice experience for victims of domestic and sexual abuse
2. **Prevention and Early Intervention** – Improving safeguarding in both the physical space and virtual space including tackling cyber crime, road safety, peer on peer abuse, hate crime and female genital mutilation (FGM)
3. **Reducing Re-offending** – Targeting and managing harm and risk with a focus on substance misuse, violence involving weapons and offender management including perpetrators of domestic abuse
4. **Serious Organised Crime and Terrorism** – Improving the local response including increased public awareness, promoting a 'dare to share' culture, and preventing violent extremism and the exploitation of vulnerable people.
5. **Police Ethics and Reform** – Increasing the pace of change with a focus on improved support for victims, accelerated uptake of new technology, and improving the perceptions of police among young people.

For more information about the plan visit www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/police-and-crime-plan/

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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