



## ARBORFIELD GARRISON STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

To date most of the development at the SDL has been in Barkham Parish, although Redrow Homes has started work on constructing some of the 179 dwellings planned for Parcels H , I and J which lie within Finchampstead Parish.

The southern part of the SDL known as Hogwood Farm lies within Finchampstead Parish and has recently been sold to Legal and General. The site has outline planning consent for 1500 new homes, a school, shops and employment generating uses, and over 44% of the site will be public open space. Legal and General will now be taking forward the development of the site and we expect to see this progress next year.

The interactive maps at the following link give a useful overview of how the development is moving forward. [www.wokingham.gov.uk/major-developments/arborfield-progress-map/](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/major-developments/arborfield-progress-map/)

### You can help us to make Finchampstead even better!

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire and gave us their views on which types of projects we should support to help improve life for the people of Finchampstead. We were very pleased with the number of questionnaires returned and are currently analysing the responses. We will report the consultation findings - and what we plan to do next - in a future newsletter.

### Casual vacancy on the Council

We have a vacancy on the Council due to the resignation of a Councillor who is moving out of the area. If you are interested in finding out more about the work of the Council and how you could get involved and help your community please get in touch with the Clerk - contact details can be found overleaf. The closing date is 31 January 2018 and we hope to co-opt a new Councillor at our meeting on 21 February 2018.

### Local information

#### • **Finchampstead book swop**

We adopted the red telephone box at the California Crossroads earlier this year and have converted it into a book swop. Please free to take a book and donate one if you can. There is also a small noticeboard for promoting community events.

#### • **Green Ways**

The first Green Way running from the FBC Centre through the California Country Park to the new development at Arborfield Green was officially opened on 2 December. Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) has now drawn up proposals for the next Green Way - linking the Green Way in the California Country Park to Nine Mile Ride. This will be of particular interest to horse riders. You can see the plans and submit your comments by visiting [www.wokingham.gov.uk](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk) and searching for consultations.

#### • **Christmas opening hours**

The Parish Office will be closed from 12 noon on Friday 22 December, reopening at 9am on Tuesday 2 January 2018.

The FBC Centre and the Library will close at 1pm on Saturday 23 December and will reopen on Tuesday 2 January 2018. Please note that the café will not be open on 23 December.



## Local information and events

### • **Gorse Ride Estate regeneration**

Work has started on developing proposals for the regeneration of the Gorse Ride Estate. If you would like to find out more drop in to one of the regeneration surgeries which are held fortnightly on Tuesday mornings at the Community House, 17 Billing Avenue RG40 4JE. Due to the Christmas break the next surgeries are on 9 and 23 January 2018 from 10am to 11.30am.

### • **Christmas Eve Community Carols**

There will be two carol services at the FBC Centre on Sunday 24 December. The first is at 4.30pm and the second at 6.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

## Litter in Finchampstead

### **Did you know that:**

- Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) is the Highway Authority responsible for our roads and road signs, and the Borough Council is also responsible for arranging litter clearance and cleaning in these areas.
- The Parish Council employs a Litter Warden who spends around 50 hours each month litter picking our roadsides and cleaning our road signs.
- The work of the Litter Warden adds to the work of WBC and means that our roadsides and signs are cleaner than they would be otherwise.
- Since the beginning of April this year the Warden has collected over 700 sacks of litter.
- He has also cleaned nearly 500 road signs.
- January is always a particularly busy month for our Warden, with 10% to 20% more sacks of litter collected.
- Lots of your Christmas waste can be recycled. Please make the most of the opportunities - for example put wrapping paper, cardboard boxes and cards into your recycling box. You can chop up your real Christmas tree and put it in either your brown bin or in compostable sacks.
- There is lots of advice on what you can recycle and where at [www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/)
- Details of waste and recycling collections for Christmas and the New Year are listed on the back of the latest 'Wokingham Borough News' which all households should receive. Alternatively you can visit [www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/](http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/rubbish-and-recycling/) to find out your collection date. Normal service resumes on Monday 15 January 2018.

## **FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

PARISH OFFICE, FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD RG40 4ES  
Tel: 0118 908 8164 email: [clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk) [www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](http://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)



**To subscribe or unsubscribe to this newsletter and other Parish Council information please contact us at the address above or follow the link on our website.**