



Council news

- **Annual Gathering**

We were delighted to welcome so many people to our Annual Gathering held on 6 March 2019 and hope that those present found it interesting and informative.

Every Town and Parish Council has to have an annual meeting for its Parishioners and our meeting, known as the Annual Gathering, gives us the opportunity to tell you what we have been doing over the last year on behalf of Finchampstead. It also allows us to meet and listen to you - our residents, as well as to others who provide support or services for those in our Parish. The minutes and presentation from the meeting can be found on our website http://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk/the_council/meetings.html

Our Annual Report for 2018/19 was distributed at the event and will be circulated with this newsletter.

- **Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Finchampstead is a great place to live and work now but what do you want it to be like in 5, 10 or 15 years time? The Parish Council is intending to work with the community to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan to map out the future of Finchampstead Parish.

Following the public meetings held in January several volunteers from the community have come forward to help and we are now moving forward to the next stage of the development of the Plan. We are really pleased with the level of support offered to date but more volunteers are welcome. If you are interested in finding out more about the proposed Plan and / or how you could get involved please get in touch with us at ndp@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk

- **Community Litter Pick - 24 March 2019**

This year the litter pick is being organised by the Parish Council with the Finchampstead Neighbourhood Action Group. Several groups - large and small - as well as some individuals have signed up to take part so far. If you would like to get involved and do your bit to help keep the Parish clean and tidy please get in touch. We can provide the equipment.

- **Adopt a Street**

We now have over 30 volunteers who have 'adopted their street' and help to keep their local area clean and tidy. There is no commitment - volunteers do as much or as little as they wish - it all helps. We can provide a litter picker, bags and a hi vis tabard, and any waste collected can be put out with your own blue bags of refuse. Please get in touch if you would like to be get involved.

RECYCLING NEWS

- **Food waste recycling**

This new scheme starts in April and you should receive your large container for outside and a kitchen caddy with a supply of bags very soon. Food waste will be collected weekly with your other recycling and waste. To find out more about what you can recycle visit www.wokingham.gov.uk and search for 'recycling'. An information sheet is included at the end of this newsletter.

- **Re3growcompost**

This compost is now available from recycling centres (Smallmead in Reading or Longshot Lane in Bracknell). It is peat free, certified and made from 90% recycled garden waste. The cost is £3.50 for 40 litres or £10 for 3 bags. Note that payment can only be made by card.



Local events and information

- **RSPB talk - 14 March**
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Wokingham & Bracknell Group are hosting a talk titled 'New Moon on the Wane: the Curse of the Curlews' at the Memorial Hall, The Village RG40 4JU at 8pm on Thursday 14 March. For more information visit www.rspb.org.uk/groups/wokinghamandbracknell
- **First aid training - 21 March**
Heartstart Swallowfield are running emergency life support skills and defibrillator training on Thursday 21 March from 7pm to 9.30pm at The Cornerstone, Norreys Avenue, Wokingham RG40 1UE. Places are free but must be booked - telephone 01189 612000 or email kate.meads@ccberks.org.uk
- **Shakespeare Week March 18-24 March**
William Shakespeare was never lost for words, but young people in the UK are increasingly so. A national survey published in 2018 reported that more than 60% of primary and secondary school teachers were seeing a rise in pupils with an underdeveloped vocabulary. In order to help children across the country find their words, Shakespeare Week will be embracing the theme of Language and Literacy in 2019. To find out more about Shakespeare Week, please follow on Twitter [@shakespeareweek](https://twitter.com/shakespeareweek) or visit www.shakespeareweek.org.uk
There will be book displays and activity sheets in Finchampstead Library and other libraries.
- **Afternoon Tea @ St James' Church Centre - 30 March**
The Helen Taylor Churchyard Trust is holding an afternoon tea at the Church Centre from 2.30pm to 4.30pm on 30 March. All funds raised go towards the upkeep of the Churchyard.
- **Beech Hill Concert Band - 13 April**
Brass and woodwind musicians will be playing a varied programme of light music at the Finchampstead Memorial Hall, The Village RG40 4JU at 7.30pm on Saturday 13 April. Admission is £10 and tickets are available from Parkview Motors/Village Shop. Telephone 0118 9733114. Proceeds are in aid of the maintenance of the Hall and the Park.
- **The Big Valley Ramble - 28 April**
The Blackwater Valley Countryside Trust's major walk of the year, the Big Valley Ramble, takes place this year in some of Berkshire's finest English scenery. The route takes in the countryside connecting Arborfield and Swallowfield, in all its Spring glory.
Everything is taken care of, allowing participants to relax and enjoy the scenery around them and the company of their fellow walkers. And of course there's the wildlife and landscape - spring flowers in abundance, striking country houses, red kites in numbers, and rolling fields. Further details and a booking form are on the link below. Early booking is advised.
<http://www.bvct.org.uk/event/big-valley-ramble-bvr2019/>
- **California Country Parkrun - every Saturday**
Parkrun organises weekly 5km runs in many places across the globe and started a run at the California Country Park on 23 February. The California Country Parkrun will take place every Saturday - the event is free but you must register in advance.

Visit www.parkrun.org.uk/californiacountry/course/ for more information. The event is organised by volunteers - if you would like to help, for example as a marshal, email californiacountryhelpers@parkrun.com



ARBORFIELD GARRISON STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT LOCATION (SDL)

Over 200 new homes on the SDL are now occupied, with permission granted for over 600 more homes. While all of the homes constructed and occupied to date are within the part of the development known as Arborfield Green, around 50 of these are actually in Finchampstead Parish with more to follow.

Legal & General Homes have started work on the first phase of the southern part of the development, now known as Finchwood Park. This is within Finchampstead Parish. The first foundations were laid in February 2019 and work has started on the visitor centre - due to open in spring / summer 2019 - and on the new green space.

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-garrison/

LAND ADJACENT TO SANDMARTINS GOLF COURSE, FINCHAMPSTEAD ROAD

WBC refused permission for the development of up to 80 homes on this green field and the developer, Gladman Land, has now appealed against this decision. A Public Inquiry commenced at the WBC Offices at Shute End on 12 February. WBC Councillors, Parish Councillors and local residents from the 'Keep it Green' campaign spoke to express their opposition to the scheme. The Inquiry ran for 3 days and was then adjourned. It will resume at 9.30am on 8 April 2019 at Wokingham Town Hall.

Members of the public can attend the Inquiry and are encouraged to do so to show the Planning Inspectorate how much residents care about this important green space. For more information about attending the hearing visit www.facebook.com/groups/KeepItGreenFinchNorth/

LAND TO THE REAR OF 6 JOHNSON DRIVE

Wokingham Borough Council has refused permission for a proposed development of 25 homes on this site. The Applicant has appealed against this decision and a Public Inquiry will commence on 14 May 2019. We will provide further details when these are available.

GORSE RIDE REGENERATION

The first phase of the regeneration - including the former Cockayne Court and some properties on Arnett Avenue – is underway. The demolition work has been completed and the construction of the new properties is due to start in June this year. This will include 10 houses and 2 blocks of flats, making a total of 46 homes replacing the 30 homes previously on the site.

There has recently been a public consultation on the plans for the remainder of the Estate and a planning application is due to be submitted later this year. This second phase will include around 248 flats, houses and bungalows.

FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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What can I put in my caddy?



You can recycle all your food waste, including the following:

Remember to recycle your mouldy and out of date food (including ready meals) removed from their packaging.



- ✓ All uneaten food and plate scrapings
- ✓ Leftover pet food



- ✓ Cheese
- ✓ Eggs
- ✓ Yoghurts



- ✓ Bread
- ✓ Cakes
- ✓ Pastries



- ✓ Raw meat
- ✓ Cooked meat
- ✓ Bones



- ✓ Tea bags
- ✓ Coffee grounds



- ✓ Raw vegetables
- ✓ Cooked vegetables
- ✓ Fruit
- ✓ Peelings



- ✓ Raw fish
- ✓ Cooked fish
- ✓ Bones



- ✓ Rice
- ✓ Pasta
- ✓ Beans



- ✓ Pour your leftover oil into a plastic bottle, seal it and place inside your outdoor container

Please do not put any of these materials in your caddy

- ✗ Packaging of any kind
- ✗ Liquids such as milk
- ✗ Pet waste
- ✗ Garden waste

Top tip
Use our app
're3yclopedia'
to check for
recyclable items.



Wokingham Borough
recycles



WOKINGHAM
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