

# RAMSDEN CRAYS PARISH COUNCIL

## NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2017

### Chairman's Report

The Annual Parish Meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> April is minuted in draft format with an update for residents on the notice board and website.

### Projects in 2017

The Forest of Life project was planted by the Woodland Trust and inspired by Essex Wildlife Trust's vision for 'Living Landscapes' to Restore, Recreate and Reconnect wildlife habitats for the enjoyment of local communities. The wood area contains many different types of native trees including oak, hornbeam and silver birch. Oak trees are like a wildlife hotel that are able to house a large biodiversity of creatures. There are also shrubs including dog rose and hawthorn. These shrubs provide excellent nesting and feeding for a variety of birds. There is also a small natural pond.

Please keep your dog under control in the park. A small part of the pond is for dogs to drink and bath. Dogs must be kept out of the main pond as they could damage the environment for the newts and frogs. This pond is located in the boggy part of the park and includes a viewing mound which incorporates a refuge for cold blooded animals like newts and frogs to hibernate in the winter. As the woodland grows it will become inhabited by birds, insects and small mammals.

### Parish Councillor

#### Vacancy

There is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor, please contact the Clerk if you are interested.

### Neighbourhood Watch

This scheme is attempting to be brought up to date in the Basildon area.

If you would like to be a member of a Police recognised watch and receive weekly Police information of events in the area or like to volunteer as a Street Coordinator please send an e-mail with name, address to the Crouch Ward Coordinator on [CrouchWardNHW@hotmail.com](mailto:CrouchWardNHW@hotmail.com) or if you do not have e-mail message on 07443938337.

Please note we have been assured your details will only be shared with the appropriate NHW coordinators

### Upcoming Events

Remembrance Service – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at the war Memorial in London Road, Crays Hill at 10.45 a.m. – walk from the Shepherd and Dog, further information to be provided nearer the date.

This project area is managed by Basildon Council's Parks and Countryside who you can contact by phoning 01268 533333 or through the Basildon Council website at <http://www.basildon.gov.uk/article/4633/Parks-and-Open-Spaces>

The orchard area, which is near the car park, was planted with the assistance of SH Goss and pupils from Crays Hill Primary School. It contains apple, wild cherry, wild pear and crab apple trees.

The park also contains an enclosed playground are an outdoor gym and a zip wire.

### *Fly Tipping in the Parish*

There has recently been an increase in fly tipping and illegal advertising on fences etc. If you notice this please contact Basildon Borough Council on 01268 533333.

### *Highways Issues*

Highways has informed us that in future to report an issue residents are required to access Essex Highways online and complete the relevant form.

### *Parish Council Meetings – 2017 Dates*

15 <sup>th</sup> May	19 <sup>th</sup> June
10 <sup>th</sup> July	No meeting in August
18 <sup>th</sup> September	16 <sup>th</sup> October
20 <sup>th</sup> November	11 <sup>th</sup> December

Please note that any criminal incidents should be reported to the Police on 0300 333 4444 or anything that is suspicious. Ward Councillors, Terri Sargent and Stuart Allen hold regular surgeries at Noak Bridge Village Hall at "Coppice Lane" on the first Saturday of the month between 9.30 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. and Steepleview Community Hall, Willowfield on the third Saturday of the month between 9.00 a.m. and 10.00 a.m. residents are invited to attend.

### *CPR – Defibrillator Training*

Members attended a CPR Defibrillator Training session. Please confirm to the Clerk if you are interested in the purchase of a defibrillator for the area.

### *Parish Council Members*

#### **Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

Mrs. Georgina Bassett  
David McPherson-Davis  
Norman Flint  
Geoffrey Jenkins  
Michael Kirby

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