

CROOKHAM VILLAGE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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COMPRISED OF
CROOKHAM VILLAGE
NETHERHOUSE MOOR
ZEBON COPSE
HARESHILL
AND ALBANY PARK

IN THIS EDITION

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Welcome

Welcome to the April edition of your Parish Newsletter. As we move into spring, it's great to see Crookham Village coming into its own again, with longer days, greener spaces, and more opportunities to enjoy our local area.

Looking ahead, local elections will take place in May. These are an important opportunity for residents to have their say on who represents them and how local services are delivered. We encourage all eligible residents to take part and make their voice heard.

From all of us at Crookham Village Parish Council, thank you for your continued support. We look forward to a busy and productive spring across the parish.

Councillor Vacancy

Crookham Village Parish Council is seeking a new member to fill a current councillor vacancy. If you have an interest in local matters and would like to make a positive contribution to the community, we'd be pleased to hear from you. No experience is required and full training will be provided.

Interested? Email clerk@crookhamvillage-pc.gov.uk



Your Parish Councillors



Simon Ambler
Chair of the Parish



Julia Ambler
Chair of the Finance & HR
Committee



Indra Sinka
Lead Member for Community
Engagement



David Jackson
Chair of the Planning
Committee



Mark O'Sullivan



Peter Bradley

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- * May 5, 2026
- * June 1, 2026
- * July 6, 2026
- * August 2026 - No Meeting
- * September 7, 2026
- * October 5, 2026



Councillor Feature

Councillor Andrew Friend

In this issue, we're featuring another one of your Parish Councillors, giving you a chance to get to know the people who help make things happen in Crookham Village.

This time, we speak to Cllr Andrew Friend, our current Vice Chairman, who shares a few fun facts about himself and life in the parish.

Q: What do you enjoy most about being a councillor?

A: I joined the council shortly after moving here for my son's birth, impressed by the well-kept green spaces, facilities and welcoming community; seeing this was driven by the parish council, I joined, and have since learnt a great deal working with an experienced team delivering Hareshill Community Centre, upgrades to Zebon Community Centre, towpath improvements, and essential day-to-day community upkeep.

Q: What do you think makes Crookham Village unique?

A: With now 5 distinct areas to the parish, each with its own character and appeal, Crookham Village has something for everyone. We care about our environment, the history of the area and each other. Where else do you find that?

Q: What do you like to do in your spare time outside council work?

A: I have 2 young children, so I spend most of my spare time as a family being active, making things, breaking things and living life at 100mph. When I can steal a moment to myself, you'll find me in the pool or winding my way through our gorgeous countryside on my bike.



Solar & Heat Pump Community Event

In March 2026, Crookham Village Parish Council hosted a Solar & Heat Pump event at Zebon Community Centre, bringing together residents, local groups, and expert speakers to explore renewable energy options.

The event was well received and well attended, with short talks and case studies delivered throughout the day. Local speakers and community groups shared their knowledge and experiences, offering practical insights into solar panels, heat pumps, insulation, and energy efficiency.

Residents had the opportunity to learn about potential cost savings, available grants and group discounts, and hear tips from the HDC Impact Hart Group. Thermal imaging surveys and real-life examples provided useful guidance for those considering making changes to their homes.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to making the event a success.



Residents' Open Day

Crookham Village Parish Council will be holding its Residents' Open Day on **16 May 2026 between 12pm and 3pm at Hareshill Community Centre**. Residents are warmly encouraged to join us for what promises to be an informative and welcoming community event.

The afternoon will provide an opportunity to learn more about the history of the parish and how it has evolved over the decades, as well as to meet your local councillors and community representatives. There will also be updates on what the Parish Council has been working on, including current projects and plans for the future.

This is also a great opportunity to meet other residents, engage with your community, and share your views on what you would like to see happening in the parish. We are keen to hear your ideas and feedback, which help shape the Council's priorities moving forward.

Residents will have the chance to ask questions, find out more about local services and initiatives, and take part in open and informal discussions. Refreshments will be available throughout the event.

We hope to see as many residents as possible and look forward to another engaging and positive afternoon for the community. Children are very welcome, with a nearby room set up with colouring activities to help keep younger attendees entertained.

**Crookham Village
Residents' Open Day**
SATURDAY 16 MAY 2026
12PM-3PM
**HARESHILL COMMUNITY
CENTRE**
MILLPOND AVENUE, GU51 5EN



Other News

Neighbourhood Watch



Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch helping to keep our community safe.

Fleet & District Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) exists to bring communities together so they can share a sense of responsibility for where they live. The Fleet & District NHW committee works with the police to help prevent crime and reduce fear of crime. We are lucky to live in a low crime area, but it only takes moments for an opportunist to strike.

Fleet & District NHW already has 6,000 member households, that is around 18,000 pairs of eyes watching out for each other, some in small and some in larger groups. Someone often sees what is happening and reporting concerns helps prevent crime. Working together keeps our Neighbourhood safer.

Looking after our neighbours, especially those that are vulnerable is important and keeping contact with each other whether it be to warn of a suspicious cold caller or suspicious activity is an important role. By joining a Neighbourhood watch group, you can make a difference.

You can join your local Neighbourhood Group, or you can become a coordinator by starting a new watch group in your area.

If you are interested in Neighbourhood Watch and would like further information, please either contact secretary.fleetnhw@gmail.com or visit our website at www.fleetnhw.co.uk



Parish Noticeboards Refreshed

Our parish noticeboards have recently been given a new lease of life, thanks to the excellent work of **Church Crookham and Fleet Men's Shed**. Their time, skill and effort have helped ensure these important community assets remain well presented and fit for purpose.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks for their support and contribution to the parish.

We are also pleased to announce that noticeboards will be installed in the Hareshill and Albany Park developments, helping to keep more residents informed and connected.

Fleet Phoenix Summer Project at Lea Green



The Fleet Phoenix Summer Project at Lea Green will be returning for summer 2026. Exact dates are to be confirmed, but Crookham Village Parish Council is proud to once again support this fantastic initiative.

Held on parish-owned land and play areas at Lea Green (by the end of Netherhouse Moor), the project provides a fun and engaging environment for young people, helping to build confidence, develop skills, and bring the community together.