



## **COPYTHORNE PARISH COUNCIL**

### **NEWSLETTER: MAY 2017**

**In this issue:** Advance notice of the Parish Council Annual Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May; Friends of Copythorne Playground Update, a further request for volunteers for the Community Speed Watch Scheme and information on Parish Council meeting dates, times and schedule into the future

#### ***The Parish Council Newsletter***

Welcome to the May 2017 edition Parish Council Newsletter. An enlarged version of the Newsletter will also be available on the Council's website early in May. In addition, paper copies will be available from the Bartley Post Office, Mace Store at Cadnam and the Courtesy Filling Station shop, Romsey Road.

#### ***The Parish Council Annual Meeting***

Regular readers will know that we already held an 'Annual Parish Meeting' on the 14<sup>th</sup> March in the Parish Hall and a full report for that meeting was presented in our April Newsletter.

However, we now have upcoming, the:

#### ***Parish Council Annual Meeting on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May***

which, unlike the Annual Parish Meeting which was 'hosted by the Parish Council and was geared to a community input on matters Parishioners wanted to discuss, is a very different format and more formal in nature. Its content is a legal requirement in terms of the reporting by and operation of the Parish Council. This is, in effect, a public meeting of the full Parish Council, where various decisions have to be made regarding its work, its meeting schedule and most importantly, the election process for the Chairman and Vice Chairman as well as the Chairs and membership of the various sub-committees which undertake functions on behalf of the full Parish Council.

Members of the community are very welcome to attend and observe the process and the Parish Council is keen that Parishioners can join us and be part of this important aspect of Parish Council business. It is important, however, to note that the formal activities required of this meeting form the bulk of the agenda and unlike normal Parish Council meetings, there is no formal slot for public presentations and questions. However, if time allows, then there is the potential for members of the community to ask questions at the end of the meeting.

#### ***Copythorne Playground Moves a Step Closer***

At the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April, the Parish Council received a report from the Friends of Copythorne Playground as a part of their quarterly reporting cycle, setting out progress to date on fund raising and activities to support the development of the Playground.

Members of the Parish Council were very impressed to hear of the amazing progress that is being made in raising funds for the important community project. Just under 4 months into the fund raising programme, towards the target of £50,000.00 the Friends Group report that they have received or have firm pledges for a fantastic total of approximately £20,000.00 or a tremendous 40% of the target. This is comprised of grants from the Parish, District and County Councillors, donations from local businesses, with a specific mention made of the substantial £10,000.00

donation from Paultons Park, funds raised through events by local groups and individuals including local children and other income.

Specific mention was made of the great result achieved by local mother Mai Wakatsuki who ran the London Marathon and raised £1,200.00 for the project (this figure may rise as more donations are coming in as a result of her significant efforts!) Well done Mai!!

The Parish Council is very appreciative of all the hard work of the Friends Group and the numerous members of our community who are participating in events to raise funds for this very important community resource. Please help in any way you can to help get to that £50,000.00 target. If you want to know more or are keen to help, go to [www.focp.uk](http://www.focp.uk).

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### ***Community Speed Watch – We're Still Seeking More Volunteers!***

This is a short reminder to all in our community that we are seeking to re-start the Community Speed Watch Scheme in the Parish. To date, we have received three volunteer offers for which the Parish Council is extremely grateful. The number of volunteers is sufficient to establish one 'team' and we hope they'll be operational soon.

However, we have not received enough offers to enable us to two teams, which is what we ideally would like to put in place as this helps to spread the commitment.

We are seeking three more people who can join the Scheme and enable us to put together that second team. It doesn't take a great deal of time, especially if enough volunteers can be found. Perhaps you have a few hours a month you could spare for this worthy cause that has the added bonus of getting you out into the fresh air and meeting other people.

Full training is given with co-operation from the local Police Force which is also very keen to see the scheme revived in our area.

If you are interested, then please could you make contact with the Clerk to the Council, Susan Brayley, (details at the end of the Newsletter), to register your interest.

### ***Parish Council Meetings***

The Parish Council agreed at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April, to stay with one monthly meeting following our experimental period during the last 10 months where we changed from two meetings per month. Future meeting dates will be agreed at the Parish Council Annual Meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May and will be published on noticeboards and the website, as well as in the June Newsletter

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017: Annual Parish Council Meeting**

The Clerk to the Council, Susan Brayley, can be contacted by email at [clerk@copythorne.org.uk](mailto:clerk@copythorne.org.uk) or by post at: Spinaway, Wootton Road, Tiptoe, Lymington, SO41 6FU, Temporary tel. no. 01590 683660. Website: [www.copythorne.org.uk](http://www.copythorne.org.uk). Details of individual Parish Councillors, and information on District and County Councillors, can also be found on the Parish Website and on community notice boards.