

TITCHFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2017



STOP PRESS! Great News. Last evening we were officially approved as a Forum by Fareham Borough Council at their Executive Meeting. What this means is that we can now apply to the Government for grants to pay for consultants who will help us develop our Neighbourhood Plan. There were some great comments from the public too.

Neighbourhood Plan - one of the best parts of a neighbourhood plan is that everything the forum plans must be considered by the residents of Titchfield.

There will soon be an open invitation for you to come to listen to a presentation regarding the suggestions for housing in the village - we must make provision for some housing within the Plan. We will then work on the Neighbourhood Plan in draft form. Hopefully by end of July 2017, you will again to be asked to comment on the design of the plan after which we will make changes incorporating your suggestions.

FBC then look at our Plan to ensure it meets the statutory requirements. We then make any changes to the Plan before it is submitted to the official inspector. A referendum then takes place of the residents of Titchfield and, providing 50% of those who vote agree, the plan is adopted. The Plan then becomes part of the FBC Local Plan and must be followed.

Housing - the current government has produced a white paper on housing which requires local authorities to provide housing in areas across their region. This makes the Neighbourhood Plan especially important as we have the statutory right and ability to decide, within reason, where any new houses will go and what type and style of houses these will be. In this way we will be able to ensure that Titchfield village maintains its ambience and style.

Grant application - we are currently working towards completing a Heritage Lottery application for funding for: new road and footpath signs, blue plaque scheme for buildings, better presentation for historic buildings, publicity material for historic houses as well as a flyer giving footpath routes around the village, new play equipment in Barry's Meadow plus an adult gym there.

Accessibility Audit - following this, the surgery has made some important changes including making a space in their front desk to enable disabled people to talk to the receptionists

rather than having to go into the corridor at the side. Great. I believe there are more changes in the pipeline.

Village in Bloom this will be taking place in July. There is a lot of activity going on which will continue right up to then. It will include tidying up the pavements and streets - working alongside the footpath group - having pots of flowers and shrubs outside the shops and businesses and encouraging householders to provide the same. The school children will be producing some plants in re-cycled containers and it is hoped to involve the youth of the village in the clean-up. The village should look brilliant. Let's hope that everyone keeps this up after the competition is over.

Footpaths and Cycle Paths - we have recently set up this group. Their first task was to walk all the footpaths in and around the village and, many torn anoraks later, they are shortly to produce a report on the condition of the paths which will be passed to the local authority and put on the website. We plan to have signs on the sites and produce a plan including showing circular routes to walk. The group are also hoping to encourage as many residents and businesses as possible to keep their footpath clean, tidy and weed-free. What do you think of this idea?

Website - Titchfield Matters www.titchfieldmatters.org.uk

The website site seems to be under control now after the transfer from the TVT website.

We did have some disruption around the recent innovation of notifying interested people when new material gets posted. This innovation has had a good response but we need more people to put their names on the notification list. Please tell as many people as possible about the site and the notification option.

The most important issue right now is to get as many local people using the site as possible - and preferably using the 'Have Your Say" page to send in ideas, comments and topics. Do all the people in the clubs and societies you belong to know about the Titchfield Matters website? Suppose you were to email the link to them - nothing more - then leave it to them to decide whether to visit the website? The link is: www.titchfieldmatters.org.uk

We leave the thought with you.

Facebook - One of our Neighbourhood Forum members has set up a Facebook page - **Titchfield Matters**. Please do log onto it and add a post if you want to share any comments or information about the village. Forum members will be posting opinions and ideas to promote events coming up and to post other exciting and useful information for you. We would also like to use it to ask you what you think so it would be good if you could give us your opinion on any ideas that we or others post. Look out for regular updates. The page is **Titchfield Matters** on the Facebook - see you there!

Bins - in November 2015 we were first in communication with FBC regarding bins around the village. Some new ones arrived, others were moved and now the one that was by the bus stop has been moved and changed to further down the road. Thanks to Councillor Geoff Hockley for his efforts in this respect.

The Health Day is now confirmed as 23rd September in the Community Centre. We will have lots of interesting and exciting things to see and hear - watch this space for more details later.

Management Group - in order to comply with the terms of our funding we are required to increase the number of people on this group. The group is now:

Ann Wheal, Chair, Colin Wilton-Smith, Vice-chair, Gloria Hunt, Secretary, John Hiatt, member, Pamela Vanreysen, member. We all have specific tasks to do and will up-date you on this at the next Forum meeting.

Ann Wheal
07.03.17.