

ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY MEETING OF ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE, ROOKSDOWN, ON MONDAY 4th APRIL 2016 COMMENCING AT 7:45PM

	In Attendance	Apologies	Absent
Cllr Mahoney (Chairman)	✓		
Cllr Botten	✓		
Cllr Cook		✓	
Cllr Lovett (Vice Chairman)	✓		
Cllr Mason	✓		
Cllr Mrs Tarrant	✓		
Cllr Mrs Wintle-Camp	✓		
Cllr Payne	✓		
Cllr Jenkins	✓		

Also in attendance: Mrs K Ross - Clerk,

Also present: County Councillor Stephen Reid, and Borough Councillor Simon Bound, PC Michael Alchin and 12 members of the public

010416	Welcome Councilor Mahoney welcomed every-one to the meeting
020416	To receive and accept apologies for absence Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Cook
030416	To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held in 20th April 2015 The Chairman signed as a correct record the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 20 th April 2015
040416	To receive the unaudited Financial statement of the Parish Council Cllr Mahoney update the meeting on the Financial situation of the Parish Council which was NOTED The statement of Accounts can be found as Appendix A
050416	To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Paul Mahoney's report was NOTED and can be found as Appendix B
061016	To receive a report from Borough Councillor Simon Bound Cllr Simon Bound's verbal report was NOTED
070416	To receive a report from County Councillor Reid Cllr Stephen Reid's verbal report was NOTED and can be found as Appendix C
080416	To receive a report from Rooksdown Community Association The verbal report was NOTED
090416	To receive a report from PC Michael The verbal report was NOTED
100416	To receive an update on the skate park This was covered in item 050416
110416	To receive an update on Social media for the Parish Council This was covered in item 050416

Appendix A

ROOKSDOWN PARISH COUNCIL							
SUMMARY RECEIPTS & PAYMENT ACCOUNT							
<u>YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016</u>							
							Figures shown
Annual Budget	Actual-v-Budget						Ex of VAT
RECEIPTS							
27330	100%	Precept					27,330.00
15	175%	Bank Interest					26.18
5431	103%	Other					5,595.42
TOTAL RECEIPTS							32,951.60
PAYMENTS							
15,500	79%	Net Salaries & Allowances					12,191.26
0	0%	HCC - Pension Contributions (eer's & eee's)					428.99
0	0%	Clerk's Expenses					20.80
0	0%	Chairman's Allowance					-
600	117%	Hall Hire					700.50
300	108%	Audit Commission					325.00
4100	65%	Administration					2,673.95
500	97%	Insurance					487.34
930	118%	Subscriptions					1,096.41
0	0%	Publications					-
0	0%	Grants & Donations:					3,245.00
10000	9%	Section 137 Payment					900.00
250	50%	Training					125.00
750	9%	Repairs & Maintenance					64.25
4000	0%	Other A					-
0		Other B					-
0		Miscellaneous					5,230.10
0		VAT on payments					888.63
36,930		TOTAL PAYMENTS					28,377.23
<u>RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SUMMARY</u>							
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD on 01/04/15							49,824.11
ADD Total Receipts (as above)							32,951.60
LESS Total payments (as above)							28,377.23
Balance Carried forward 31/03/16							54,398.48
These cumulative funds are represented by:							
Current Account Balance							5,846.07
Less:Cheques drawn but not debited as at 31.03.16 (nos.)							-
Deposit Account Balance							48,552.41
Other Account							-
							54,398.48

Rooksdown Parish Council

Chairman Comments

Annual Parish Assembly Meeting April 4th 2016

Good evening & welcome to the Rooksdown Parish Council Annual Parish Assembly Meeting 2016.

You are all very welcome. Many thanks for coming tonight and giving up your evening to spend with us.

So, what are we going to cover this evening?

So, first of all there were a few mandatory actions that we needed to take to formally open the meeting.

As the Chairman of the Parish Council, I am going to spend the first 30 minutes or so giving a presentation reviewing Parish activities during the past year from April 2015 - today.

I will then ask Cllr Jon Payne to spend a few minutes giving you an update on the Skate Park proposition which he has been leading on, on behalf of the Parish Council.

After that we will have a very short refreshment break before we come back for Simon Bound, the Borough Councillor and then Stephen Reid, the County Councillor to give us their annual reports for the last 12 month.

And we then will have a representative from the Rooksdown Community Association who will give you an update on the last 12 months for them

Finally, we have PCSO Michael ALCHIN here from the Basingstoke Police to give an update on the last 12 months from a police involvement perspective.

I'm conscious that we have quite a full agenda to get through ... we are all very happy to take questions and comments ... however, we would prefer if you could make a note of your questions and we will open the floor up at the end for a full q & a session for all members of the Parish Council to participate, the Borough & County Councillor, the RCA & the Police. If we take questions as we go through, then the whole evening could be derailed & we would like to ensure we cover all points.

Ok – so this is a look back on a year ...



ROOKSDOWN ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY	
AGENDA	
ITEM	
1	Apologies
2	Minutes of the last Parish Assembly Meeting held on 28 April 2016 – to receive and approve
3	Annual Report of the Parish Council 2015 / 2016
BREAK	
4	Annual Report of the Parish – Borough Councillor Simon Bound
5	Annual Report of the Parish – County Councillor Stephen Reid
6	Accounts of the Parish Council 2015 / 2016
7	Public Forum - members of the public are invited to raise matters of interest or concern for discussion
FINISH	

I would like to welcome to Rooksdown Sebastian Wild – our handyman.

For those of you who came to the Annual Parish Meeting last year will recall that one of our key priorities that we called out was the appointment of a handyman for the Parish to assist with local maintenance in a timely manner. I am sure you will have noticed the contribution that Seb has made to Rooksdown already. His work has been of an extremely high standard ...

- *He has cleaned all the signs, street signs, bins and lampposts across the whole development*
- *He has done some amazing work to the outside of the Community Centre and the green space around the Community Centre*
- *He has done some work to enhance the open space work undertaken by B&DBC*
- *He has done litter picking*
- *He has done strimming*
- *General maintenance of the Pavilions*

If you've not met Seb, then please say 'hi' when you see him out and about.

Thinking about him as a resource – he is looking for any extra 'private' work, especially as we move in to Spring and Summer months ... he is very reasonable priced and comes highly recommended. He has already done some great 'private' work here in Rooksdown.

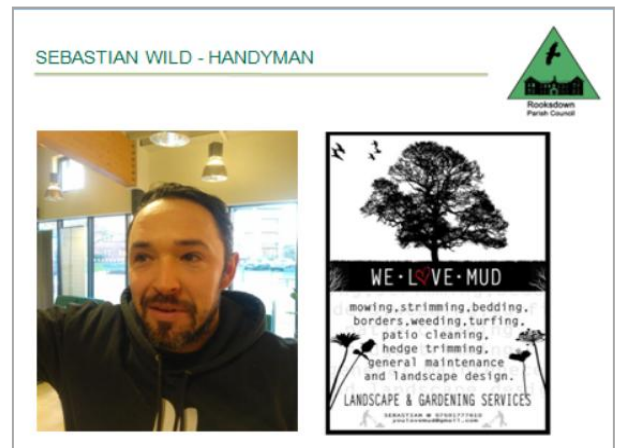
Whilst we are talking about great things which enhance Rooksdown – let's also reflect on the fact that after nearly 18 months of construction the timber clad Castle Hill Primary Rooksdown Campus opened – in September 2015 - next to the Community Centre creating a 'community hub' for the area ... which is really great for Rooksdown.



The new facilities include space for outdoor teaching, hard play areas and sports pitches.

Last year you will remember we had John Martin the head of Castle Hill Primary school as a guest speaker and he gave a rather entertaining review of why he loves teaching so much and his vision for the new Rooksdown Campus. He has been with Castle Hill for 25 years ... so you know that the children are in very safe hands.

I am sure that Simon will talk about this a bit more in his session shortly, by following a great deal of intervention by Simon, the Headmaster has confirmed that HCC and the school governors have agreed to have 2 classes in year R from September 2016 ... so a massive 'Well Done Simon'.

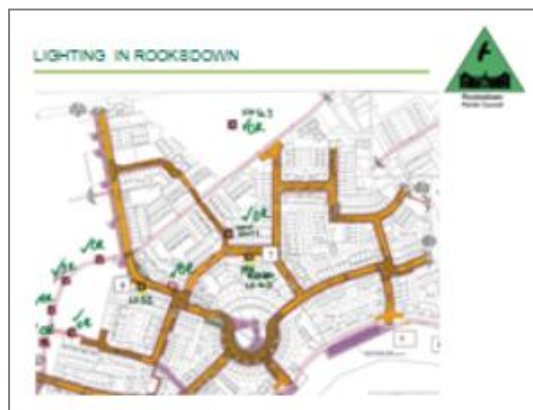


Lights across the development

When I joined the Parish Council back in July 2014, I made it a personal mission to get all the street lights working across the whole development...

What I couldn't understand was that there were areas in Rooksdown that had lamp posts but the lights had never ever worked.

I remember reporting in the Annual Parish Meeting last year that I had conducted a review of the entire development and had found some 50 lights which had never ever worked since they had been installed.



This required quite a concerted effort on behalf of the Parish Council to get Taylor Wimpey to get them sorted.

- Pavilion 4 on Park Prewett Road
- Watertower Way
- Behind Costa Coffee
- The area from Peggs Way to Highpath Way
- The area around Sheepwash Close and Downside Close.

All the lights (where there is a street lamp) are now working ... every light has been made to work ... admittedly, there are a couple where the bulbs have just recently blown – but TW have been made aware and are looking to sort these over the next week or so.

Once the areas have been adopted, you, the residents will be able to report lights direct to the Borough Council for them to come and fix via the website.

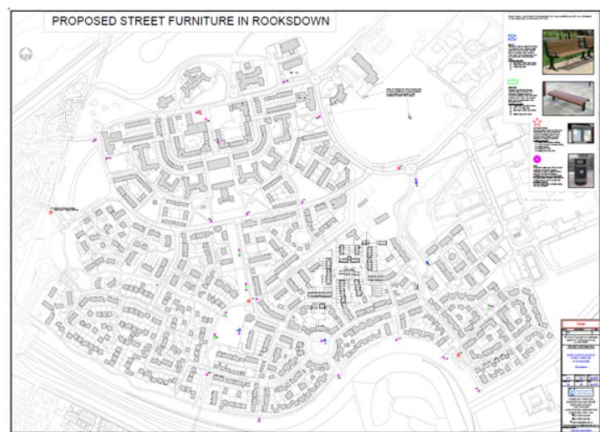
Street Furniture LIF

You will recall that I have previously mentioned in editions of the Rooksdown Reporter that the original planning agreement covering the Southern Area of Rooksdown lacked any provision for street furniture which means that BDBC has no provision under s38/106 to fund the provision of litter bins, benches or notice boards. This application seeks to rectify that oversight, and to provide additional notice boards at key locations in the older part of the parish. We were successful in achieving a grant for circa £32k



As a Parish Council we undertook a complete review of the development with regards to the street furniture project to identify where the best places were for parish notice boards, seats / benches and Bins in order to fully spend the LIF award of £32k.

We plotted the positions & locations on a map and then I pulled together the following summary.



As you can probably see the contractor started work at the beginning of March and is well advanced on completing this project within the next couple of weeks ... in time for the spring / summer months.

One of our priorities for 2016 / 2017 is to pull together a further application for street furniture across the development ... if you think there would be a good place for a bin or a bench or a notice board, then please do let us know – via the Clerk.

The Pavilions

You will recall that HCA / Taylor Wimpey submitted a planning application in November 2013 for the removal of the four Pavilions on Park Prewett Road.

The application did have quite a complex planning history and was to be determined by the B&DBC Development Committee

For those who have not yet seen it ... The planning application for the removal of the 4 Pavilions on Park Prewett Road, has now been withdrawn – returned (unlikely to be determined).



This comes as no surprise really, as there has been significant changes in the material facts over the 3 years that this application has been sitting at B&DBC to be determined.

- 1 HCA found money so that residents wouldn't be financially responsible for their upkeep (which was something that residents had originally been told was not possible)
- 2 HCA transferred this money and the legal ownership to the Land Trust
- 3 The Pavilions have had glass and seating removed
- 4 Maintenance has been ongoing to keep them in a stable condition
- 5 All agencies have prioritised the Pavilions to reduce Anti Social Behaviour and a restorative justice approach has been taken
- 6 The handyman has been regularly painting where there has been graffiti and replaced some roof tiles where youth seem to think it is acceptable to knock them about

Actions have been agreed to develop this good work and we are awaiting a meeting with the Conservation Officer at B&DBC to formalise their appearance going forward.

This is a work in progress.

SpeedWatch

Back in mid June Rooksdown became subject to a 20 mph speed zone, as represented by the signs at the various entries to Rooksdown.

I'm really pleased to report that a Community Speed Watch group has been set up in Rooksdown to help embed the 20 miles limit which came into force in June, for the safety & benefit of all Rooksdown residents.

The Parish Council resolved to purchase the Speed Indicator Display (SID) equipment at a cost of £2500 at the back end of last year.



How it works:

Details of any vehicle caught exceeding the 20 mile limit will be collected at the time of the alleged offence and then entered onto a police database.

The registered owner of the vehicle will then be sent a letter telling them that their vehicle was seen exceeding the speed limit, how it affects the local community and asking them not to do so in the future. If the same registration number is logged again within 12 months the owner's details will be passed onto Roads Policing, who may take further action.

Please be considerate to the Community Speed Watch volunteers - they are taking on this voluntary activity to positively contribute to the safety and quality of life of everyone in our Parish and they should be applauded for doing so.

If you want more details on how to support the Rooksdown Community Speed Watch team then please contact the Parish Clerk (parish.clerk@rooksdwn.org.uk)

As a SpeedWatch group there are approximately 20 volunteers who will help to embed the 20 mph ... we have all done the training and have been out and about a couple of times across the development.

For the last 5 or 6 weeks I have been placing the camera at various locations around the development to gather some useful intelligence to help us work out where the worst places are and what are the main times we should go out and about.

So what is the data telling us?

	Location 1	Location 2	Location 3	Location 4
Total number of cars/week	7000	4000	5000	3800
21mph +	82%	70%	50%	47%
24 mph +	53%	37%	25%	19%
Worst recorded speed	42 mph	41 mph	55 mph	40 mph

Other things that we, the Parish Council have been involved in -

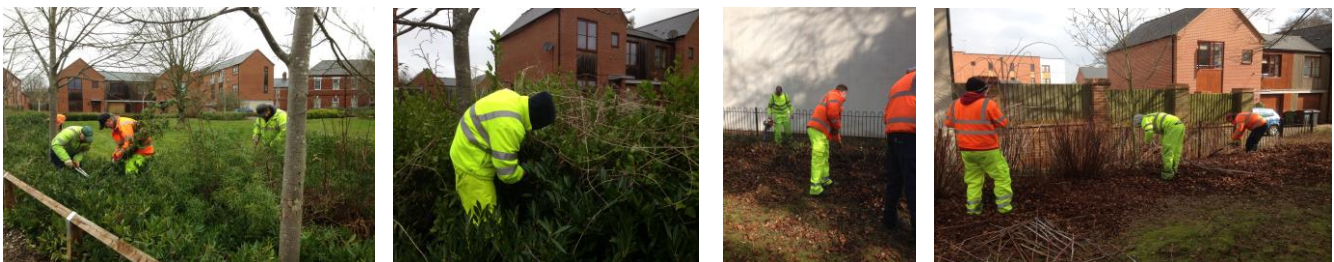
Pocket Parks & Green Spaces

I have regular calls and meetings with Gordon Wade (Grounds - Maintenance Manager Community Services, B&DBC), Andrew Kinge (Maintenance Manager at B&DBC) and Jeff Strudwick (Assistant Street Cleansing Manager (North) B&DBC) at the Community Centre to look to understand what B&DBC responsibility is towards the pocket parks and other green space areas in Rooksdown and also litter picking in the development.

We regularly undertake site visits to all the green areas to review whether they are in an acceptable state.

I shared with them my photographic evidence of the state of the pocket parks and other green areas over the last 2 years.

At the beginning of March B&DBC open space team attended for a number of weeks to get some specific training on plant identification and maintenance in Rooksdown.



The training is part of a programme of work that included immediate maintenance of the open green spaces and also for putting plans in place for their future improvement.

You can rest assured that the state of the open spaces across the whole development remains a high priority for the Parish Council.

During my discussions it was brought to my attention that we may be able to apply for a grant from B&DBC towards our maintenance man / litter picker (under the banner of litter picking). This something that we will be considering at the next Parish Council meeting.

Green Bridge & White Bridges over A339

We have received some complaints from residents about the state of the footbridges over the A339. I established that the two footbridges are the responsibility of Hampshire County Council's bridge section & arranged for the drainage system on both bridges to be cleared to stop the flooding of the area & removal of excessive amount of algae growth and general grime.

Parking Spaces – on Peggs Way

We are currently involved in the legal work that will allow the Parish Council to purchase the Car Parks at the top end of Peggs Way opposite the old TW show home and also the old Carey's Show home area at Easter Square – this will provide some additional parking for the residents at both the top end and the bottom end of Peggs Way which we hope you will find useful.

This is in addition to the area around the old TW Show home just past Easter Square which has provided another 3 or 4 spaces for general use by residents.

Parking issues on Peggs Way - Parking continues to be an issue across the development generally but particularly in the Southern Area. County Councillor, Borough Councillor and myself walked round the development (particularly Southern Area) to look at the parking issues. It became immediately evident that

discipline in terms of using allocated parking bays (usually in courtyards or behind properties) is generally poor across the whole development with some residents choosing to park on the road or the pavement (which would disadvantage wheelchair users and / or parents with pushchairs). There is also ill-disciplined (and sometimes irresponsible) parking on the 'squareabouts' on Peggs Way.

Skate Park & LIF

Cllr Jon Payne is now going to give us an update on the Skate Park as part of the Rooksdown Park redevelopment



SKATEPARK

Survey

A Clear majority of positive feedback!

Parish Brief > BDBC

Strongly agree ☐
Agree ☒
Disagree ☐
Strongly disagree ☐

Timescales

OCT 26 1985 09 00
OCT 21 2015 07 28
NOV 12 1955 06 38

We expect the park to be open for Spring next year

SKATEPARK - BENEFITS

Self Policing



Engaging



Healthy



For Everyone.



SKATEPARK - CORE FEATURES

Anti Graffiti Paint



< Brief Vision

- Concrete
- Low Noise
- Hardwearing
- Best Value

The annual Firework display

In 2015 it was with great sadness that the Parish Council made the difficult decision not to hold the fireworks event this.



Over the last few years the Rooksdown Firework event has gone from strength to strength to become Rooksdown's most popular events, but this brings with it some organisational difficulties.

There was significant house construction in the barn area and the flats opposite the field as well as the redevelopment of the park to create a new play area for the local children.

In the 2014 Fireworks it had proved very difficult to get residents and visitors in and out of Rooksdown safely.

Taking these factors into account, from a Health & Safety perspective we have decided not to host the event in 2015.

We realise this will be a huge disappointment for the residents. The Parish Council wants to thank residents for their continued support.

When we agreed to cancel the 2015 event, the Parish Council committed to holding a Firework event in Rooksdown in 2016.

Planning for the event started well before Christmas 2015 – we had come up with a great plan to run the event to ensure that it would be an event just for Rooksdown residents and had invested a lot of time to ensure the personal safety of all that came.

We had advertised for residents to help organise the event on various social media and in the Rooksdown Reporter, and to support on the night – but unfortunately received not a single offer of support. That is quite disappointing and also makes it very difficult to plan for a safe & successful event.

Despite best efforts it is looking unlikely now that there will be a fireworks event in 2016. We need to discuss this at the next Parish Council meeting at the end of April.

Grants in 2015/2016

Rooksdown Parish Council has a budget for the award of grants. The Parish Council can only award grants for specific activities or projects which will be of benefit to Rooksdown and its residents e.g. grants to a sport club (we previously approved a grant for the Rooksdown Football Club), or towards community celebrations of special events

You can review the website for further details ... and please do.

All applications must be accompanied by appropriate accounts or supporting financial information. Forms and the supporting information must be sent to the Clerk.

In 2015/16 we awarded the following grants -

£939 to Rooksdown Youth Club to fund an activity weekend

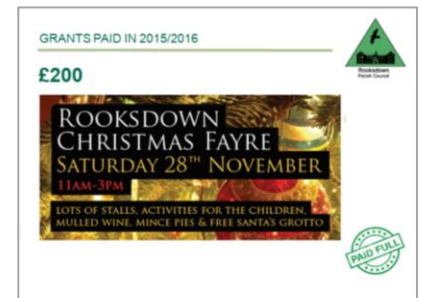
£900 to fund over 55s club. The group regularly meets on Thursday mornings for coffee mornings in the Community Centre and our grant funds a programme of trips out for the year ahead.

£2106 towards the funding of an extra youth worker for the benefit of Rooksdown



And £200 to the Community Association Christmas Fayre

And we are currently considering a grant request for £2500 to fund a youth worker for 12 months for the overall benefit of Rooksdown.



Some of the key challenges for the last 12 months have been:

Rat running through the development

'The Avenue' / Lodge Junction & A340 Aldermaston Road / Rooksdown generally

I have had it confirmed this morning that Lodge Junction / A340 Aldermaston Road road works is anticipated to be completed by July ... estimated to be June ...

What have they been doing?

- Install traffic light controls at the Lodge junction on the A340 Aldermaston Road
- Increase capacity at the existing junction of Priestley road, Merton Rise with A340 and improve access from Priestly Road to Merton Rise.
- Extend dualling of the A340 Aldermaston Road to The Lodge junction
- Close the existing Priestly Road / Avenue junction to traffic
- Improve pedestrian and cycle facilities

At the same time as completing this work – ie June / July – there will be a reconstruction of Dinwodie Drive to channel all hospital traffic out via the A340 Aldermaston Road / Lodge Junction. This work is to be carried out by the A340 works contractor (not TW) Dyer and Butler. All the plans have been approved and signed off.

TW will be issuing a temporary works licence shortly to the Hospital Trust which is required to allow TW to commence construction of the approved 'bus/ambulance restriction' on the Trust's maternity access road ... so there will be no right turn or left turn access in to the hospital off the Avenue.

So, come June / July – there will be no general access to the hospital for traffic coming in off the A339. The only access will be for buses and ambulances.

We also have a 20 mph speed limit zone with associated speed control measures in Rooksdown.

Adoption of the core areas

Stephen will possibly give an update in his session – but in simple terms - adoption of the core areas has been very protracted.

By all accounts – there are 3 issues outstanding –

- 1. The trees in the road next to the shops: Still not resolved but this will not be allowed to interfere with the adoption.*
- 2. Drainage under the Community Centre car park: solution understood: needs legal teams to finalise. This will not be allowed to interfere with the adoption.*
- 3. Street lights which is a major disappointment. Yes, they're all working. But inspections reveal that the quality of wiring behind the doors on the lights is not to acceptable standards. Nearly every light has failed inspection. A list of problems has been sent to TW: all easily rectifiable but work that still needs to be done.*

TW confirmed that HCC Highway's street lighting contractor (SSE) has inspected all the street lights (SLs) and illuminated signs across the Limes Park Core Area.

Last week Epsilon (for TW) completed the remedial works identified by SSE and TW issued HCC with revised inspection certificates this week (w/c 28th March).

These revised Certs may trigger further inspections by SSE.

TW carried out a drive round inspection 3-4 weeks ago. There were no defective SLs and no illuminated defects identified at that time.

I did a drive around at the end of the last week and found that a couple of lights were blown, so would need replacing

What is Taylor Wimpey doing next?

Next planned work from Taylor Wimpey is the completion of Pumphouse Way and white lining to car parks no.3 & 4.

Devines will be starting remedial works to Pumphouse Way within a couple of weeks.

This work will commence imminently, including completion of Pumphouse Way up to The Avenue i.e. surfacing, white lining, kerb replacements, cycleway and footpath finishing, SL cabling on the south and north of the roundabout etc. Nigel will arrange marking out and white lining of the remaining car parks closer to the time.

Taylor Wimpey – outstanding construction

Barn Area

Park Prewett Road, corner of Pumphouse Way (20 residential units and listed Barn (B1)).

The 20 residential units are now complete and the listed Barn construction is well under way on this piece of land. TW confirm that the Planning approval for the Barn as commercial units (B1 use) is being implemented. TW have no plans to resurrect the Barn as a residential conversion. TW are aware of the agreed timescales for completion within the s106 agreement.

At present they have received no expressions of interest in the property.



The Main Hall

Northbrook Crescent

19 residential units & community use hall

TW confirm that Eversheds (acting for TW) are finalising a contract with Galamast as a 'sub-developer sale' of the Main Hall – similar to the Thomas Homes 'sub-developer sale' for the redevelopment of the former hospital buildings within the Core Area. Works to the Hall have paused pending completion of the contract but TW expect works to recommence in May/June and for the development to complete in January/February 2017.



Retail core Phase 2

Park Prewett Road, opposite the Coop & Costa Coffee site (16 residential units & 2 retail units)

Taylor Wimpey have confirmed that the construction of residential & retail units will be completed within the next couple of months.



David Wilson Homes development

We have been working very hard and very well with David Wilson homes as they embark on their development of the Old Golf Course.

There are many lessons learnt from our experiences with Taylor Wimpey ... when working with DWH

Simon & I have regular (monthly) meetings with HCA and DWH ... we will keep you abreast of any developments as they arise.



Concerns of the Parish Council - Crime levels

The Parish Council is concerned to hear that towards the end of last year there has been a spate of thefts from cars across the development that have been left unlocked and also low level opportunist crimes.

I am also shocked at the number of times that I have read about anti social behaviour over the development and also when residents have seen someone acting oddly / out of character and then posts it on one of the facebook mediums to let everyone on the development know. I think it is great that as residents you are looking out for instances of this ...

Whilst I say that the Parish Council is shocked ... I don't think that we need to be overly concerned.

Please report anything to the police

Also, it may be worth registering at www.hampshirealert.co.uk to receive free crime and community information regarding the Rooksdown area.

Whilst we are talking about Facebook and all things computers ... I just wanted to let you know that the Parish Council has been moving with the times and I'm pleased to say that we have embarked on to Internet Banking with Lloyds Bank.

We have been thinking for some considerable time of how to freshen up the way that we communicate with you, the residents.

Today – we have launched our new logo ... I hope you like it ... it is fresh and modern and I'm sure you agree it shows how the Parish Council have been working over the recent years to empowering our community.

Not only have we launched a new logo, but we have today launched a new, improved Website. Tim our Parish Council webmaster has been working tirelessly to make sure it is ready for launch today ...

Please go online and have a look ... it is refreshed with lots of new information – so thanks Tim

But it doesn't stop there – the Communication Committee has launched a Twitter, Instagram and You Tube Channel ... so ... you can see that we are definitely moving with technology.

Please log on to the website and register to follow 'Twitter' and 'Instagram' and we will keep you updated with what we are doing in Rooksdown along with any important message and other communications.

I'd like to once again thank Tim and the other Councillors who have redesigned and contributed to the website

Parish Council Priorities for 2016/2017

- Trenchmead Gardens – resolution to the fence issue
- Conclusion of the adoption of the core area
- The final part of the traffic calming for Rooksdown
- Embedding of the 20 mph speed limit across Rooksdown
- The regeneration of Rooksdown Park including the building of the Skate Park
- Pavilions – regeneration and enhancement
- A LIF application for additional street furniture
- A LIF application for equipment for the inside of the Old Hall
- Working with Taylor Wimpey as they undertake the adoption of the Southern Area of Rooksdown
- Working with David Wilson Homes as they embark on the development of the Old Golf Course.
- Setting up of Allotments for Rooksdown
- Ongoing work with B&DBC for open spaces
- Car parks on Peggs Way – transfer of ownership

The Parish Council – thanks

The Parish Council would like to thank the following for the support and help that they have received from the key stakeholders – Simon Bound, Stephen Reid, Mark Glendenning and others from B&DBC

Whilst we're on 'thanks' the Parish Council wanted to recognise someone who has made a massive contribution to Rooksdown over the last 2 years ... you will have seen him out and about in Rooksdown looking after the youth of our neighbourhood. It's Richard Lee. Rooksdown Parish Council would like to formally thank Richard for all his hard work and dedication that he has shown whilst working in Rooksdown. We appreciate that he is soon to leave Rooksdown in the Summer months. We would like to recognise the work that you have done & here is a token of our appreciation.

I just wanted to finish by saying a massive thank you to the Parish Council members – those here tonight and those who have been Parish Councillors in the past They all contribute (and have all contributed) to making Rooksdown a brilliant place to live and give freely of their time.

If you think you might like to consider becoming a councillor, which does not take up a great deal of your time and is a very worthwhile & rewarding community service, and you would like to know more about what is involved or any other information, then please speak to me at the end of this session or indeed contact the Parish Clerk

You may not be aware, but Parish elections take place on 5 May this year. If you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor now then please get in touch with the Parish Clerk who will direct you to the process in order to become elected to the Parish Council.

From time to time there are vacancies for Parish Councillors on the Rooksdown Parish Council which are advertised on both the Parish Council noticeboards and the Parish Council Website.

I hope you have enjoyed this evening? I hope you have learnt about what the Parish Council has done for the benefits of all its residents over the last 12 months and you can see what the priorities of the next 12 months are ...

Many thanks for coming tonight and giving up your evening to spend here.

PAUL MAHONEY

Chairman – Rooksdown Parish Council