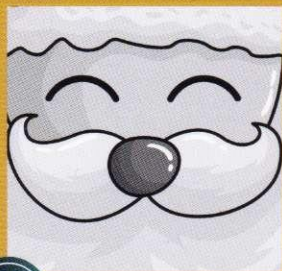




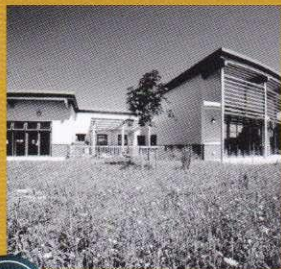
ROOKSDOWN REPORTER

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www.rooksdown.org.uk | November 2018



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Christmas Party



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Caretaker



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A festive poster for Rooksdown's Christmas Fair. It features a dark blue background with gold pine branches, stars, and hanging ornaments. The text 'ROOKSDOWN'S' is in white, 'Christmas Fair' is in large gold and white script, and 'LET'S CELEBRATE' is on a gold banner. The date and time 'SAT | 24.11 2018 11AM - 3PM' are in large white and gold letters. At the bottom, it lists activities: 'LOTS OF SHOPPING STALLS, SANTA'S GROTTO, MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE PLUS MORE...'.

ROOKSDOWN'S

Christmas Fair

LET'S CELEBRATE

SAT | 24.11
2018
11AM - 3PM

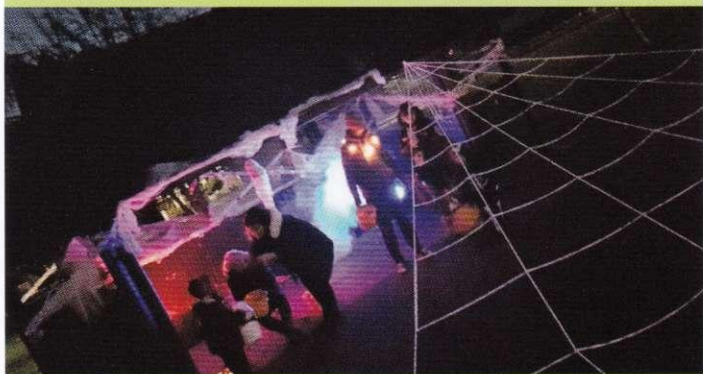
LOTS OF SHOPPING STALLS, SANTA'S GROTTO,
MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE PLUS MORE...

Borough Councillor UPDATE



With the nights drawing in it seems a long time ago that we were all enjoying an unusually long and hot summer. One of the delights of autumn is how Rooksdown comes out in force as a community for Halloween.

It was a pleasure to see so many people joining in this year, both young and old, to ensure everyone had both a good time and stayed safe.



The shorter nights remind me that so much has changed in such a short time with the school extension well underway, David Wilson Homes continuing to build, Design Your Own Home and Barratt starting on their sites. What this can mean for existing residents is disruption due to construction traffic. These sites have been no exception with myself and the Parish Council working with the developers and Homes England to get them keep within the terms of their planning permissions. Part of this is to ensure the right delivery gets to the right site following the right route. With this in mind Homes England have agreed to implement a complete consortium signage system and I am hoping this will be implemented imminently.

Street parking continues to be an issue and measure to manage it can only be implemented piecemeal for the moment. The next phase of yellow lining due to be implemented in the coming weeks is in Pumphouse Way from the roundabout to the junction with Basswood Drive.

The Parish Council are working closely with the Borough Council to keep our community neat and tidy and it is good to see the addition of Gordon, the handyman, to the team.



One persistent problem that never seems to go away is dog fouling and the darker nights appear to encourage some dog owners to see if they can get away with not picking up after their dog. The large majority of dog owners are responsible, please don't give others a bad name and be anti-social.

After a spate of car crimes and burglaries during the summer it is also encouraging to see individual suspects questioned, charged and sentenced in recent weeks. Fortunately these crimes are rare which is one of the reasons why when there is a spike in activity it feels so unpleasant.

Thank you to everyone who continues to report suspicious or known criminal activity in the community

Simon Bound

Rooksdown Borough Councillor

07879 4776 96 | cllr.simon.bound@basingstoke.gov.uk

DOG POOP & LITTER



CAN WE REMIND ALL RESIDENTS TO CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR DOGS AND THEMSELVES?

There has been an increase in litter and dog mess being left around the streets, paths and public green open spaces.

There are plenty of bins for litter and everyone is reminded that all bins can be used for dog mess. There really is no excuse!

Offenders for dog mess can be reported to the Dog Warden on 01256 844 844 or you can report it online at www.basingstoke.gov.uk

Help keep Rooksdown a great place to live.

Job Advert - Caretaker



Rooksdown Community Association are looking for a caretaker to cover opening and closing the community centre at weekends.

**Stand by rates and call out rates paid.
Deadline: 24th December 2018**

For more information please contact the office on 01256 869626 or admin@rooksdowntownline.com

www.rooksdowntownline.com



20

**PLEASE RESPECT
THE 20 mph LIMIT**

If you do so, then so will the people behind you

Community Units

More community space in Rooksdawn



You may be wondering what is going on at the units along Greenlands Road?

The Rooksdawn Community Association has been able to purchase these two units with a loan from the Parish Council.

Subject to planning permission, one of the units will become the new community office, freeing up much needed space in the community centre, the other unit is going to become a modern new space for the Community Association to host a range of activities that we don't currently have space to do in the Community Centre. For example: coffee morning for various groups, book club and various other groups and events. Please keep in mind that the fit out of these units is not going to be quick as we have to wait for money from developer contributions linked to the build out rate of new homes, so keep a lookout when you are passing.

www.rooksdawnonline.com



Response to the Planning Application 17/00818/OUT:

MANYDOWN

In a rapidly growing community such as Rooksdawn, one of the main jobs of the Parish Council is commenting on planning applications. Last year we dealt with 15, ranging from simple house extensions to major housing developments.

One of the biggest planning applications affecting Rooksdawn at the moment concerns the 3200 houses being planned for the Manydown development to the south. For us, the most important aspect is the new junction between the A339 and Rooksdawn Avenue and how this affects access to Rooksdawn. During the formal consultation in September the Parish Council objected to the current proposals because:

- The new double roundabout will make cycle and walking across the junction very difficult
- The southbound access onto the junction from Rooksdawn Avenue will be increased from 2 to four lanes. This seems unnecessary for the number of vehicles and will result in an unacceptable loss of trees, vegetation, greenspace and walking space between the current junction and the houses.



We await the Manydown Project Team's response.



For news about all the projects we are currently working on, we look forward to seeing you at a forthcoming Parish Council meeting.

There's no meeting planned in December this year. Dates for meetings in early 2019 can be found below, on the Parish Notice Boards around the Parish and, of course, on our Parish Council Website.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN EARLY 2019

Monday 28th January • Monday 25th February
Monday 25th March • Monday 22nd April

I very much look forward to meeting you at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 24th November... which has always been a great event for Rooksdawn. Thanks to the Community Association for all their efforts in pulling this event together!

All the best

Cllr. Paul Mahoney
Chairman - Rooksdawn Parish Council



WE WANT YOU!

There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council

Rooksdawn Parish Council consists of nine members of the public and they attend each Parish Council meeting at the Community Centre on the 4th Monday of the month, spending an average of around six hours each month advising and helping to run Rooksdawn Community.

Parish Councils are the lowest tier of local government and allow residents a direct say in what happens in their local community. This is especially important where the community is changing as fast as Rooksdawn.

If you would like to help shape our community why not contact the Parish Clerk, Martin Whittaker, for a chat?

T: 07928 129122 E: parish.clerk@rooksdawn.org.uk

Being a Parish Councillor is a very worthwhile & rewarding community service. Help Make Rooksdawn Even Better!



Community Centre WEEKLY Programme

M Monday
Boot Camp 7pm

T Tuesday
English & Maths Tuition 3.30pm
Pilates Class 6.30pm
Yoga Class 7.30pm

W Wednesday
Beavers 6.30pm
Pound Fit 7.30pm
Ballroom and Latin Dance 8pm

T Thursday
Club55 Coffee Morning / Trip 10am
English & Maths Tuition 3.30pm
Martial Arts 6.30pm
Yoga Class 6.45pm
A Capella (singing group) 8pm

F Friday
Cubs 6.30pm
Scouts 7pm
Zumba 8pm

S Saturday
Karate 9.30am

S Sunday
Pentecostal Church 9am

Blossom Day Nursery operates
Monday-Friday for 0-5 years

More details can be found at
www.rooksdowonline.com
For party bookings call
01256 869626

Rooksdow
Community Association

WINTER WEATHER



Whilst we've not yet had any snow we don't know if it is far away. Especially for the new residents and as a reminder this is what is available within the residential areas.

1) HCC gritting routes – you can look these routes up on the HCC web-site.

a. The whole length of Rooksdow Avenue up to the roundabout with Park Prewett Road is covered as a priority route covered by the large salting vehicles because it is a primary bus route. Please do NOT leave your vehicles parked on Rooksdow Avenue in the event of snow because apart from likely damage you reduce the effectiveness of the gritting. As it becomes adopted then the gritting route will be extended to the next available suitable turning point.

b. Community gritting route from Rooksdow Avenue via Gillies Drive to Saxon Wood School. This route is covered by a small community vehicle after any support work on the main trunk routes is completed and subject to driver availability.

2) HCC Grit Bins

a. These are the large blue ones and they contain grit not rocksalt. These are the responsibility of HCC to replenish and contact details are contained within them to arrange replenishment. There is a strict policy as to where these can be sited. At present there are 6 on site.

3) Rooksdow Parish Council Facilities

a. RPC has 19 green and yellow bins dotted around the estate primarily in unadopted areas but with formal permission of the land owners. There are some in other areas that do not fit the HCC criteria but nevertheless are in risky areas. As areas get adopted then the plan is to get HCC to replace our bins with their bins and the RPC bins moved to other areas.

b. Some facts on these bins:

i. they each hold 300kg of rock salt – ie 12 bags each = 180 bags = 4.5 tonnes for a full replenishment.

ii. RPC hold a small local store in the Parish for urgent bin replenishment but please note this is undertaken by RPC members with RPC members own vehicles so please bear with us. It is very heavy work.

iii. We also have 3 manual gritting machines also held at the centre for use by RPC members. We did not get much chance to fine tune the use of these last year so will need some more work on settings etc.

4) General comments

a. All grit/salt supplied by either HCC or RPC is to be used on public highways and footpaths NOT private driveways or private car parking areas.

b. Warning letters will be issued if abuse occurs and if abuse continues then bins will be locked out of use. This is in line with HCC guidelines.



ROOKSDOWN HANDYMAN

In the last few months you may have notice Gordon the Rooksdow Parish Council handyman working to keep our community neat and tidy.

Gordon has been busy keeping paths clear, picking up litter and mending fences.

If you see him out and about, say hello.

Community Contact

Park Prewett Road Basingstoke RG24 9RG

01256 869626

admin@rooksdowonline.com

www.rooksdowonline.com



Published by Rooksdow Community Association (registered charity: 1142688) & Rooksdow Parish Council

Disclaimer: Please note that the views expressed in this magazine are contributors' personal opinions and do not necessarily represent the views of the editors, Rooksdow Community Association or Rooksdow Parish Council.

The RCA or RPC do not necessarily endorse the service and All information was correct at the time of printing but maybe subject to change.