

Parish Council Newsletter

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Neighbourhood Plan Launch Event

**Please put
the date
in your
diary now!**

Note to Readers: The Parish Council would like to thank the contributors from other community groups to this issue of the newsletter. The Parish Council is not responsible for any of the views, statements or opinions expressed in these contributions.

A CALL TO ALL RESIDENTS WE NEED YOU TO SHAPE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN DOGMERSFIELD

Hart District Council is developing its Local Plan for 7,534 new houses.

Winchfield new town could be as large as 5,000 new homes.

Surrey Heath and Rushmoor are requesting Hart to take around 3000 additional houses from their requirements.

Hart's total could be over 10,000 new homes!

Dogmersfield will learn of its allocation later this year.

A Neighbourhood Plan is the only meaningful way to help residents to influence planning decisions affecting Dogmersfield.

Most other local/neighbouring communities are developing Neighbourhood Plans.

Dogmersfield urgently needs to do the same, so that our concerns and wishes are heard.

Without a Neighbourhood Plan our parish is VULNERABLE.

***To learn more and find out ways you can help
please 'drop in' anytime at the Launch Event:***

September 26th 11am – 4.30pm.

Venue - The School Hall.

YOUR voice – YOUR input – YOUR support is CRITICAL.

Please read on....

Shaping Future Development by Councillor Geoff Beaven

After careful and detailed consideration Dogmersfield Parish Council has concluded that it will be in the best interests of all residents if we take advantage of the influence on future planning decisions that the production of a Neighbourhood Plan will have.

Although the Parish Council has taken this decision on your behalf it will be a residents' plan as any neighbourhood plan will be rejected unless it has the full involvement of its residents taking lead roles in pushing through this initiative.

This special edition newsletter explains more about what will be involved in producing a Neighbourhood Plan and invites you all to a 'drop in' launch event which will be held in the **Primary School hall on Saturday 26th September between 11am and 4.30pm.**

Why does Dogmersfield need a Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood planning was introduced by the coalition government as part of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The stated aim being to give communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area. This allows residents' to choose where they want new homes to be built, have their say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided, and also, if they wish, to grant planning permission for the new buildings they want to see go ahead.

However, although Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to ensure that they get the right types of development for their area the rules state that this is only where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area. This means that a Neighbourhood Plan can only be a positive document that implements and delivers housing numbers allocated to the area by the Local Plan.

Hart District Council are currently drawing up the Hart Local Plan after their earlier attempt failed two years ago. They ran a public consultation on Housing Development Options last October and informed by this they are developing a plan that relies heavily on a new settlement of up to 5000 new homes with sites around Winchfield being their preferred location.

However this does not mean that new houses will not need to be built elsewhere and Hart DC have indicated that a large number of new houses may still be needed in the rural areas. Should the new settlement option fail then there is no doubt that the number of new houses in the rural areas will be even greater.

At some time later this year we will be told by Hart DC how many new houses are to be allotted to Dogmersfield for the 20 year period of the Local Plan. Hopefully there will be some negotiation over this figure but it will be unrealistic to assume that Hart DC will agree to there being no development in Dogmersfield during this period.

Through the production of a Neighbourhood Plan you the residents will be able to decide where this allocated number of houses should be built, what type of houses they should be and what other infrastructure and other changes will be needed in order to achieve your vision for the Dogmersfield of the future. Without a Neighbourhood plan Hart DC will decide which sites will be developed as well as allocating the number of houses that are to be built.

The back page gives more detail about what is involved in drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan and a fair question is why does the Parish Council think that all of this effort is justified when there is likely to be little choice over where development is possible.

Firstly it will not be possible to complete a neighbourhood plan in less than 12 to 18 months and consequently it is unlikely to have any impact on the developments that are currently being considered for Church Lane and Chatter Alley. Secondly as already stated the Neighbourhood Plan itself will not be able to influence the number of Houses allocated to Dogmersfield in the emerging Hart DC Local Plan.

To understand the reason for having a Neighbourhood Plan we need to understand the protection it should provide against development beyond what will be allocated in the current Local Plan. Once the Neighbourhood Plan has been formally approved it should offer complete protection as decisions on planning applications will be made using both the Local Plan and the neighbourhood plan.

A Health Warning

However, there are a number of situations when this may break down. For example should building the new settlement be delayed for any reason Hart DC may wish to allocate more houses to Dogmersfield to make up the shortfall. Also should the Local Plan get into trouble for this or any other reason developers may be encouraged to submit speculative planning applications for Dogmersfield that would then be more difficult to resist.

The Parish Council has investigated the level of protection in great detail and found that the rules are unclear as conflicting statements are made in different sections of the documentation. Currently Hart DC believe that they will be able to override a Neighbourhood Plan in the future should they need to allocate more housing to parishes but there is other evidence that suggests in future Neighbourhood Plans could be more dominant. However, it is already certain that having a Neighbourhood Plan will be a significant influence for future decisions.

Risk Assessment

In this situation the Parish Council concluded that the risks associated with not having a neighbourhood plan, when many other parishes in Hart have one, are too high and for this reason they decided to go ahead with a plan.

The following is an extract from the recent appeal inspector's decision that granted permission for 315 new houses in Watery Lane after permission was refused by Hart DC. This provides some insight into the influence a Neighbourhood Plan might have had and therefore why the Parish Council believes that it is in residents' interests that a plan should be produced for Dogmersfield.

'I heard that Church Crookham Parish Council is in the very early stages of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. No documents were available before the inquiry. The Parish Council representatives at the inquiry indicated a preference for small scale development only in Church Crookham. Whether or not that may be appropriate would be a matter for a review of the Local Plan and any Neighbourhood Plan that may be produced. It is not a matter that can be afforded any weight at this stage.'

Village Summer Party and Annual Duck Race by Dr. Philip Whitehead of Dogmersfield Events

As in previous years the village summer event was held on Pilcot Green in the centre of the village and once again we were fortunate with the sunny weather. The street party started at 12:30 with Geoff Hiscott and The Artful Dodgers providing live music and amusing banter.

At 1:15 a fabulous barbecue, generously provided by The Four Seasons Hotel, Hampshire, was served and residents took their delicious food to the continental-style long table which occupied the road alongside the green.

A bar provided sparkling and still wine and drinks for the children. Colourful ducks were on sale ready for the Duck Race and a raffle was held for the large number of excellent prizes. A large bouncy castle kept lots of the excited children happy.

After the meal everyone wandered over to the start of the Annual Duck Race on the River Hart. Children and parents watched their ducks slowly make their way to the rapids alongside the old water mill before the ducks entered the final stretch of this exciting race. Prizes were awarded to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 25th ducks and the onlookers generously applauded as the last duck limped over the finish line.

The winner of the Duck Race won a magnificent yellow duck and a unique trophy .

The event finished at 4:30 and a team of volunteers from the village helped clear the site.

With thanks to Dogmersfield Events.



Enjoying a delicious BBQ in the sunshine.



Follow that Duck!

NEXT ENVIRONMENT VILLAGE VOLUNTEER DAY

Saturday 17th October - 9.30am until 12.30pm

Meet at the Queen's Head Car Park

Please notify Claire Inglis, Parish Clerk if you are able to come along.



At the last village day some of the volunteers taking a well earned cup of tea.



Excellent progress! The cleared area of Pilcot Green North.

Village Environment by Councillor Graham Leach

In addition to the routine maintenance of the verges, we have undertaken two projects in the village over the past few months. First, we have repaired and re-laid the footpath running from the cricket field towards the Church. Special matting has been laid along the length of the path to provide a solid foundation, and this has been covered with wood chippings. The work was carried out by the Community Payback Team (CPT). A special mention and thanks go to Brian White for the supply of the wood chippings. The end result is a 'mud-free' path with a very professional finish!

The second project has been to begin the implementation of the Land Management Plan for Pilcot Green North (PCN) - the area of trees and scrub land on the opposite side of the road from the Queens Head. To date a section of new hedge

has been planted, the entrance footpath away from the main road has been cleared and widened, and a significant amount of work has been completed to remove the brushwood and Himalayan Balsam. This work has been undertaken by the CPT and volunteers from the village on two volunteer days. The second of the volunteer days was particularly successful with over a dozen villagers assisting with the work. In the short time since the work was carried out natural flora has started to re-appear in the cleared areas.

During the autumn months we plan to continue with the work on PGN; clear out the ditches which were 'dug-out' last year so that they are clear of debris before the winter rains; and continue with the routine maintenance of the verges to keep them tidy. We are also planning to do a review

of some of the other well-used footpaths in the village and produce an action plan for their maintenance and upkeep as our next project.

Our work on the Village Environment relies on:

Contractors – who maintain the verges and traffic chicanes under contract.

The Community Payback Team – who visit the village on a monthly basis.

Volunteers – on the centrally organised volunteer days and as individuals undertaking pruning, strimming and ditch digging when they can.

Land Owners – who we encourage to keep their verges and overhanging trees pruned and tidy.



Newly Refurbished Footpath



The footpath entrance into Pilcot Green North

Thank You to The Four Seasons

Thanks go to the staff of The Four Seasons Hotel for providing the wonderful BBQ at the village Summer Party.



WWI Remembered by Sue Smith

In this edition we commemorate the lives of the first two Dogmersfield casualties of the war, namely, William James Crumplin in September 1915 and William Goodyear in October 1915. I would like to thank Rachel Holmes, Assistant Curator of the Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum and Lt Col Colin Bulleid, Secretary of The Royal Hampshire Regiment Trust, for their help and advice in researching William Goodyear's army service.

L/Cpl William James Crumplin, service no. 6557, 12th Battalion, Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), killed in action 28 September 1915 (aged 24)

William, the son of William and Annie Crumplin, was born in Pilcot, in April/ May 1891, and was baptised in All Saints Church on 24 May 1891. By 1901 the family then included his brother, Harry (7), his sister Minnie (3) and his widowed grandmother Martha Crumplin (76).

Ten years later William was employed as a 2nd footman at Fairthorne Manor in Curdridge, near Botley. In the spring of 1915 William married Daisy Shelton in Willesden, Middlesex and made their home in Harlesden, Middlesex.

William responded to Lord Kitchener's appeal for a further 100,000 volunteers to support the war effort made in August 1914. These 'new armies' would be new 'service' battalions of existing regular army regiments. The 12th (Service) Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment) was thus formed in Hounslow in September 1914, which was to come under the command of 73rd Brigade, 24th Division and was joined by William.

The units of the 24th Division assembled near Shoreham for initial training, uniforms, rifles and other equipment was yet to be provided. By March 1915 some makeshift uniforms had been issued but rifles were not supplied until June where final training took place in Aldershot. On 19 August orders were received for the Division to move to France where they entered the Western European theatre of war on 1 September 1915. A few days later they began the long march eastwards to be in reserve at the Battle of Loos, where they would experience trench warfare. The Division marched through the night of 24th September to within 6.5 miles of the front line, where they were to be ready for the call to the frontline during the planned assault on 25th September. It was during this assault that William was killed in action, just three and a half weeks after arrival in France and only a few months after his marriage.

William was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. He is commemorated on the Loos Memorial.

L/Cpl William George Goodyear, service no. 4/2220, 1/4th (TF) Battalion, The Hampshire Regiment, died 13 October 1915 (aged 21)

William, the eldest surviving child of Walter and Elizabeth Goodyear, was born in Nutley, Hampshire in 1894. By 1901 the family had moved to Larkwhistle, Micheldever Station. William and his then younger brother Sidney, sister Emily and family moved to Popham Barracks and by the time of the 1911 census had moved to Owslebury and then to Pilcot, Dogmersfield in c.1908 where another brother, Thomas, was born.

In Pilcot William and his father both worked as farm labourers and Sidney was a butcher's boy.

Although the date when William Goodyear volunteered is not recorded, he did enlist locally at Crookham and joined the 1/4th (Territorial) Battalion. His brother Sidney has a consecutive service number, 4/2219 from the same battalion and therefore is likely to have volunteered at the same time as William.

It is likely that they were two of the 800 men who embarked for India on 9 October 1914, arriving at their first destination Poona on 11 November 1914. During the next few months the battalion concentrated on training and musketry in preparation for action in the Asiatic theatres of war. The call came to mobilise for Mesopotamia on 5 March 1915. The Battalion embarked at Karachi on 11 March 1915 and disembarked at Busra (sic) a week later. Initial tasks in the Mesopotamia theatre of war included escorting convoys on foot over the 12 miles to Sheiba, much of the route being through three feet of mud and water. In late April the Battalion headed up the Karun River by steamer to take part in operations in Persia. Following several weeks of poor conditions, lack of rations and shelter, the Battalion returned to Busra and billeted in the 'filthy Turkish Barracks at Asher'. The next journey took them to their first major battle in Nasiryrah which involved crossing Hammer Lake, much of the time pulling the boats by hand through the water. The battle of Nasiryrah started in early July, finally ending on 24 July with the loss of many men either through injury, sickness or having been killed in action. Mid-August saw the Battalion leaving by boat for Amara where it was to be refitted, trained and was also to receive much needed drafts of officers and men to bring it back up to full strength.

It was at Amara that William died of sickness on 13 October 1915. He is buried in the Amara War Cemetery. He was entitled to the 1914/15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. His brother, Sidney, who survived the war, and was awarded the same medals, would have been nearby when he died.

Editors Comment from Mike Ricketts

This newsletter rightly focuses on the Your Parish Council needs **your** input need for Dogmersfield to develop a and **support** for this to be a reality. The Neighbourhood Plan. The urgency and drop in meeting on September 26th is reasons for these have been outlined in your opportunity to ask questions and detail. learn more.

This is a critical moment for our Village and will set out how it will develop over the next twenty years.

Please find the time to attend, so that we can answer your questions, listen to your comments and plan the way forward We are a small community where everyone's voice is important.

The 8-Steps to a Neighbourhood Plan

