

Zion Hill Copse Wood Fair

The Zion Hill Copse Wood Fair was held on 5 September 2009 and was attended by Sandra Gidley MP together with the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Alan Dowden. See picture below.



The event has been held for the last ten years by Test Valley Borough Council and attracts not only local residents of Valley Park but people from far and wide.

Numerous ancient crafts were displayed and children were encouraged to take part in many of the activities. The Copse is a Local Nature Reserve and Cllr. Alan Dowden said: "The local woodlands are what makes Valley Park special and they are well maintained and certainly appreciated by local people." Sandra Gidley MP said: "It is an opportunity for parents and children to enjoy and learn about the natural environment close to where they live."

Kevin Harrington, TVBC Parks and Woodlands Manager, organised the event and made it a successful and enjoyable day for all those that attended. See picture below



In this picture Kevin Harrington TVBC Parks and Woodlands Manager (Left) Sandra Gidley MP (Centre) and Cllr Alan Dowden Chairman of the Parish Council (right)



Bus Shelters

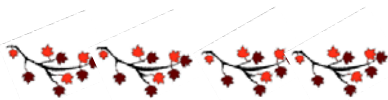
Residents will no doubt have seen the two new bus shelters which have been installed by the Parish Council in Shannon Way. Four bus shelters in Wicklow Drive have also been refurbished.

Parish Partnership

A Parish Council partnership will take place with Hampshire County Council to install a new footway on Templars Way between the blocked off Castle Lane to School Lane. This is to assist pedestrians and will be carried out this financial year. Hampshire County Council is currently designing the scheme on behalf of the Parish Council

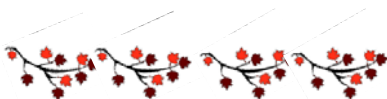
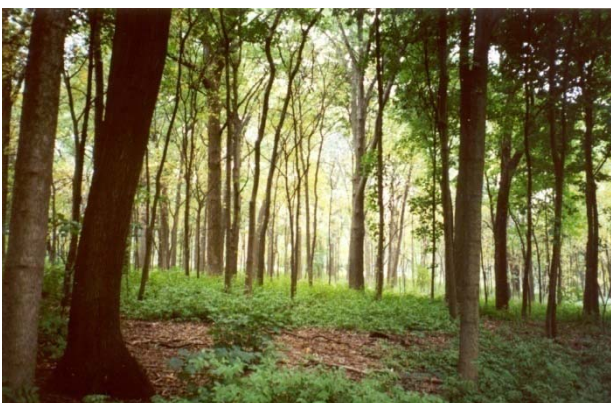
Launch of Valley Park In Bloom

This year Valley Park In Bloom was launched by the editor of the Daily Echo Ian Murray accompanied by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Alan Dowden, Cllr Ray Bryan and children from St Francis and Knightwood Primary Schools.



Local Nature Reserve

The Parish Council has strongly supported a Test Valley Borough Council initiative to designate large areas of woodland within the Knightwood area as Local Nature Reserves.



Provision of Grit/Salt Boxes

The Parish Council will be installing Grit/Salt Boxes within Valley Park this winter to assist the public should there be a repetition of the severe weather which caused difficulties to motorists during the bad weather.

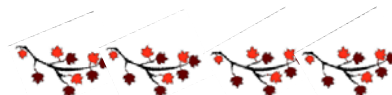
If you have any preferences as to locations of these boxes please let the Clerk or the Chairman Councillor Alan Dowden know. Email and telephone contact details below:-

Clerk@valleyparkparish.org tel: 02380 137299
alan.dowden@hants.gov.uk tel: 02380 266458



TVBC Core Strategy

The Planning Inspector found Test Valley Borough Council's Core Strategy to be unsound and as a result it was withdrawn. This means that Test Valley will now need to re draft its Core Strategy and once again it will need to go through the process of a public consultation process. The pre submission consultation will take place February/March 2010 with a view to making a submission to the Planning Inspectorate in May 2010.



Valley Park Future Meeting Dates

2009

- 12th October
- 9th November
- 14th December

2010

- 11th January
- 8th February
- 8th March
- 12th April
- 10th May
- 14th June
- 12th July
- 13th September
- 11th October
- 8th November
- 13th December