



## Valley Park Parish Council Newsletter

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*To keep up to date visit our website at [www.valleyparkparish.org](http://www.valleyparkparish.org)*

### **Local Sports Star launches the Valley Park in Bloom Event**

Children from St Francis and Knightwood Primary Schools met Samantha Aplin Team GB Duathlon Ladies World Title holder when she launched the Parish Council's Valley Park In Bloom Event together with local councillors Alan Dowden and Kath Tilling.



The Parish Council has once again won 2 Gold medals for its floral displays in the community and hanging basket categories. This continues the Parish Council's success over recent years in gaining numerous awards for its floral displays throughout Valley Park. This has helped Valley Park to become one of the most desirable places to live in the UK, according to social media and the press.

In the picture Councillor Alan Dowden, Chairman of the Parish Council is discussing Sam's recent achievements leading her to becoming World Champion. Samantha was a pupil at St Francis Primary School and later attended Thornden School. Councillor Dowden said that he was hoping local businesses could sponsor Samantha to help her gain further accolades.



### **Proposed Residential Development of 370 properties on Land North off Flexford Road in the Parish of North Baddesley**

Some residents may well be away of a proposal to develop land for housing on land off Flexford Road. Should a planning application for a development on this site materialise residents would need to write to Test Valley Borough Council expressing any concerns they may have, in particular that the site is located in the countryside for the purposes of the newly adopted Revised local Plan and that it is also located within a Local Gap.



The revised Local Plan, which has been approved by a planning inspector, demonstrates that Test Valley Borough Council already has a positive housing land supply without adding additional sites such as the one now proposed.

## Playgrounds at Donnington Drive and Collins Close Valley Park



Local residents have been consulted on refurbishment proposals for improvements to the playgrounds at the above play areas and work on the refurbishments is due to commence this year.



## Glendowan Road Car Park

Agreement has now been reached on how the extension to the Glendowan Road Car Park will be financed. Test Valley Borough Council will fund 50% of the cost with the remaining 50% being funded by Hampshire County Council and the Parish Council. It is hoped that this will help with the parking situation in this area and also assist Knightwood School parents to be able to “Park and Stride”.

## Controlling Rats and Mice - a guide to preventing infestations

Test Valley Borough Council Environmental Health Department is issuing the following advice to residents:

- Keep gardens free from food i.e. pick up fallen fruit and residue from bird feeders, store pet food indoors and attach a board to the front of the hutch to prevent spillage. Do not put food on a bird table.
- Remove any potential nesting sites including heaps of rubbish, compost and cut back any overgrown areas.
- Secure any gaps underneath external buildings such as sheds.
- Cut back any trees or climbing plants so that they are not allowed to reach from ground to roof level.
- Ensure your home is in good repair – fill in any cracks or holes on outside walls (including under decking), seal gaps around pipes, replace worn or broken ventilation