

### VALLEY PARK PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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#### Lawrie McMenemy Launches Valley Park in Bloom 2017

Lawrie McMenemy together with pupils and staff from Knightwood and St Francis Primary Schools met with the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Alan Dowden, and other members of the Parish Council to launch the 2017 Valley Park in Bloom event.

Lawrie started by telling the pupils how important community projects are, especially when local people get involved. He praised the Parish Council for their work with the community. As a former manager of Southampton Football Club, he said he always encouraged his players to get involved with their local area.

Chairman of the Parish Council, Alan Dowden, said that the baskets and planters were particularly impressive this year and he thanked Roger Savage from Choice Plants who attended the event and presented each pupil with a plant.



Lawrie McMenemy with Parish Council Chairman, Councillor Alan Dowden and Parish and Borough Councillor Chris Thom





### **Recycling Stars Schools Competition**



Valley Park Recycling
Star Oscar Cope, a pupil
at St Francis Primary
School, submitted the
winning design to be used
on the Refuse Collection
vehicles in the South of
Test Valley.
Congratulations go to
Oscar and also to the
School as this is the
second time a pupil from
St Francis Primary School
has won.

### **Local Skate Jam**

Another Valley Park young star, Lewis Devlin, receives his prize for winning at the recent Skate Park competition at Knightwood Leisure Centre. Lewis is a member of the Knightwood Youth Club.



## Knightwood BMX Trio Aims to be World Champions

Knightwood Youth Club member Samantha Baird represented Team GB in South Carolina USA at the World BMX Championships. She competed against another 74 girls. Samantha previously competed in the World 2015 Championships.



# Vodaphone Telecommunications Mast

Vodafone has applied to Test Valley Borough Council for prior notification of a 17.5 metre monopole phone mast and base station on Knightwood Road.

Valley Park Parish Council invited representatives from the company to attend a meeting in July to discuss their proposals but they did not attend. The Parish Council put forward some alternative sites to Vodafone which the Parish Council considered would be less intrusive but nevertheless Vodafone have continued with their original site proposals.



#### **Good News**

The planning application by Gladman Developments Limited for 365 homes at Thorn Hill, Flexford Road, North Baddesley, was refused by Test Valley Councillors at its Southern Area Planning Committee on 8 August 2017.

Valley Park Parish Council Tax remains the lowest in Test Valley.

### **New Knightwood Pre-School Building**

Hampshire County and Test Valley Borough Councillor Alan Dowden, together with Test Valley Borough Councillor Chris Thom inspect the progress of the new pre –school accommodation being built at Knightwood Leisure Centre.

Alan Dowden said he was delighted to see that the new Knightwood preschool was now under construction and this improved facility would be of benefit to staff and children.



## New Leader of Test Valley Borough Council

The new Leader of Test Valley Borough Council, Councillor Phil North is shown around Valley Park by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Alan Dowden and Parish and Borough Councillor Celia Dowden.

Councillor Alan Dowden requested that a footpath be constructed from Skyswood Road to the Leisure Centre on safety grounds, for pedestrians and particularly for parents with pushchairs walking to and from the pre-school. Councillor North was supportive of this idea. He was also receptive to the suggestion by Alan that an outdoor gym should be provided for the community on a suitable site at the Knightwood Leisure Centre.

