



Valley Park Parish Council Newsletter

2021 - December Edition

Cristina Mitchell - Parish Clerk - 07825 278432

4 Brue Close, Chandler's Ford, SO53 4SP

To keep up to date visit our website at www.valleyparkparish.org or visit our Facebook Page @ValleyParkPC

We wish all residents a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Peaceful New Year



Commemorative Tree Planting with the Mayor of Test Valley

Valley Park Parish Council accepted the invite from Test Valley Borough Council to take part in the commemorative planting. The Mayor of Test Valley, Cllr Mark Cooper donated an oak tree and commemorative plaque to remember those who lost their lives to the Covid-19 pandemic and to gratefully recognise all the many volunteers who gave their time and support to help others. Both Valley Park schools took place in the event.



Green Flag Award



Valley Park woodlands have received the Green Flag Award for 11 years in a row. In the photo is the Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr Alan Dowden, Steve White from Friends of the Park, Boyce Jeffrey - Senior Woodland Officer and other members of his team.

Pathways at Knightwood



Cllr Dowden is pleased to inform Valley Park residents and visitors that all pathways have been refurbished at Knightwood Leisure Centre.

BMX Club



Cllr Dowden welcomed by Keith Brown – Lead Coach and the members of the Knightwood BMX

Knightwood BMX is a thriving BMX club based at the BMX track at Knightwood Leisure Centre and is completely run by volunteers. It is thanks to these volunteers that over 100 junior and some 12 adult members are able to enjoy weekly lessons throughout the year. The club welcomes riders of any age or ability, with the youngest member being only 5 years old. The weekly lessons see riders learning life skills not only on a bike, but also about camaraderie and sportsmanship. The club maintains a fleet of bikes, with the associated safety equipment, which riders can borrow as part of their lessons. These loaned bikes enable families to participate in the sport by removing any financial barriers that might otherwise prevent them from joining.

Riders from within the club participate in regional competitions across the country with recent success at the British BMX Championships where one club rider became the British Champion of his age bracket.

Valley Park Parish Council was pleased to help with much needed funds to enable new equipment to be purchased and other necessary maintenance of the track and equipment.

Poppies in Valley Park



To commemorate Remembrance Day, Valley Park Parish Council are displaying large poppies along Knightwood Road during November.

News in Brief

- Valley Park has maintained the lowest Council Tax in Test Valley Borough by far. The Parish has reduced its element of the Council Tax by 40% from 13 years ago.
- Our hanging baskets were back this summer and next year we are looking forward to a fantastic floral display.
- Welcome to Andrew Beesley who was recently appointed as a Parish Councillor.
- The Parish Council submitted a CIL bid for funding to the Test Valley Borough Council to create six new community orchards, by planting local historic fruit trees across Valley Park. Some traditional larger trees will be planted to help screen the industrial buildings in School Lane. A signposted nature trail will provide a walking route linking the orchards. Volunteers will help with the planting and the "Friends of the Park" volunteers will help with the long term maintenance.
- As part of the annual programme of works being undertaken by Operation Resilience, surface treatment works will be undertaken on the footways in various locations. The purpose of the treatment, which consists of a Footway Micro Asphalt, is to preserve the footway in good condition for the longest possible time. It seals the structure from water ingress, arresting the formation of defects. The works are now in a programme and are due to start in November. Please see below the list of sites that are programmed:

- ✓ SD-TV21067- Raglan Close
- ✓ SD-TV21068 - Knightwood Road