



Valley Park
Parish Council

Merry Christmas

VALLEY PARK PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

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The Valley Park Parish Council wishes all residents of Valley Park a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Winter Bulb Planting

School Children from St Francis and Knightwood primary schools planted 4,000 purple crocus bulbs on 19 October at two locations in Valley Park. They were assisted by the Chairman, Councillor Alan Dowden and Parish Councillor Ray Bryan both pictured below left. This will produce a real feature, along the main road within the local area, at the end of February 2011.



TVBC Council staff helped prepare the ground and Veolia provided free compost.

This event came about through contact from the Eastleigh Rotary Club. They explained the work that Microsoft's owner, Bill Gates, was doing, in partnership with the Rotary Clubs, to attempt to eradicate polio across the world. The Parish Council was enthusiastic to get involved.

The Chairman of the Parish Council has now written to Bill Gates inviting him to visit Valley Park next spring when the flowers are in bloom.



Bus Shelters

Following further approaches by local residents, the Parish Council has agreed to install two further bus shelters one at Knightwood Road backing onto Tansy Meadows and one at Templars Way close to the School Lane roundabout. It is hoped that these will be installed by the end of December this year.



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Friends of the Park



The Parish Council gave a grant to Friends of the Park to establish a community orchard on open space land within the knightwood area. The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Alan Dowden, was invited to plant the final tree.

New Youth Club in Valley Park



With financial support from the Parish Council and active help from the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Alan Dowden, K-WOOD Youth Club opened its doors to members on the 24th September. Knightwood Leisure Centre kindly donated their Annex room for them to use on a Friday evening between 6.30 and 9.30. Membership has grown steadily to 40 young people aged between 13 and 16. Members enjoy various activities in the Annex and when space is free they can spill over in to the main hall for sport and games. The Astroturf pitch is also available for football events.



In October, the youth leader worked with a group to design and paint a colourful Halloween poster for use at the Leisure Centres Halloween party and in November club members joined in a Table Tennis tournament. The club would be very pleased to welcome further new members. Just drop in on a Friday evening from 6.30, but if you would like to learn more please contact Alan Stevens on 07785 732336 for more information.



Finally, this project cannot succeed without the active support of local residents. The club is currently looking to add new volunteers to its group, so if you would like to talk to them about becoming involved in any way to support the project team and help build on their early success please contact Alan Stevens as mentioned above.



'Run in England 3-2-1'

The Parish Council has offered to support a local resident who had recently organised a running course for beginners based at Knightwood Leisure Centre. The course was part of a national initiative called 'Run in England 3-2-1' which was dedicated to making running an easily accessible lifestyle choice for residents, communities, schools, workplaces etc. The course was extremely popular and well supported by local residents demonstrating that running was a popular activity that an increasing number of residents would like to take part in.

The basic concept of the 3-2-1 initiative is to way mark flat accessible routes that are either, three, two or one mile or kilometers. This would lead to the area being signposted by Run in England as part of a national network and attract beginners not just living in Chandler's Ford but other groups from across the area/country.

