

Test Valley Borough Council Revised Local Plan

The Borough Council has prepared a new Revised Local Plan. It provides the planning framework for the Borough of Test Valley up to 2029 and includes proposals for additional 1600 homes in the local area. The Revised Local Plan can be viewed on the Council's web site <http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/local-development-framework/dpd/> The Parish Council urges residents to have a look at the document and make their views known to Test Valley Borough Council.

The Revised Local Plan proposes to keep the existing local gaps between North Baddesley and Valley Park; Valley Park and Ampfield and Southampton and Eastleigh. These gaps are important to help resist pressure for further large scale development in the area. In order to guarantee the protection of our area it is imperative that residents write individual letters to the Head of Planning and Transport at Test Valley Borough Council, Beech Hurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, Hampshire. SP10 3AJ supporting the new Revised Local Plan and in particular the retention of policy E3, local gaps.

Any previous letters that residents sent in on this matter will not be taken into account for the Revised Local Plan.

The 6 week public consultation will begin on 24 January 2014 at 9.00am and will run to 7 March 2014 at 4.30pm. **Please be aware that this will be your last opportunity to help prevent any further large scale development in Valley Park and it is now up to residents to write or email to the address above in support of the E3 local gap policy. DO NOT DELAY WRITING IT IS SO IMPORTANT!**

Community Orchard

In the picture the Chairman of the Parish Council is inspecting one of the fruit trees in the latest community orchard planted in Valley Park by the Friends of the Park and sponsored by Councillor Dowden.



Parish Precept

The Parish Council is pleased to announce a further 5% reduction in the Parish Council Precept. The Parish Council's element of the total council tax remains the lowest in Test Valley.

Over the last seven years the Parish Council has reduced the tax by a total of 20%. This has been due to prudent financial management by the Parish Council and by gaining grants and business donations.

The Great War Commemoration

To commemorate the Great War, Valley Park Parish Council has organised the planting of poppies in numerous areas in Valley Park. The cultivation and seed sowing will take place during February and will be carried out on behalf of the Parish Council by Test Valley Borough Council.

Community Transport

The Chairman of the Parish Council, through his position as a County/Borough Councillor, has called for a meeting between Test Valley Community Services and Eastleigh 'One Community' to discuss the provision of community transport for Valley Park residents. Currently 'One Community' will only pick up residents from the Eastleigh portion of Valley Park and likewise Test Valley Community Services will only pick up Test Valley residents.

Councillor Dowden is striving to resolve this cross border anomaly and ensure that residents in both areas can utilise the transport facilities of both community organisations. Once an agreement has been reached residents will be notified.

No Parking Please!

Councillor Kath Tilling is continuing to work closely with Eastleigh Police, the Neighbourhood Wardens, the Highways and Transport Officer for Test Valley Borough Council and representatives from insurance firms Aviva and Ageas to address the ongoing problem of inappropriate parking by local workers in the residential streets near Hampshire Corporate Park.

Early morning patrols have shown that an average of 40 vehicles per day are being parked in Montgomery Way, Donnington Drive, Calshot Drive and Castle Lane. The cars remain there all day and block spaces designated for visitors and tradespeople. Some cars are stationed dangerously close to junctions, creating hazards for through traffic on the estate, whilst others are parked carelessly, restricting access to and from residents' driveways.

The registration numbers of vehicles observed to belong to workers at the Corporate Park are being recorded and passed on to the management teams at Aviva and Ageas. Employees are being issued with letters requesting that they do not park in residential areas but make use of alternative parking facilities. If a worker does not have a permit to park on site, there is a free Park and Ride service operating from Eastleigh Football Club in Stoneham Lane and from 29th January 2014, a second Park and Ride service will commence from Wren's Farm in Castle Lane.

Kath Tilling says "These arrangements mean that no-one working at the Corporate Park need use our residential area as a car park. If a resident has a complaint about illegal or inconsiderate parking by someone they believe to work at the Corporate Park, they can report the details by emailing facilities.eastleigh@ageas.co.uk and Ageas will liaise with Aviva to address the problem."

Autumn Bulb Planting Event

Some 3000 miniature daffodils were planted on Knightwood Road opposite Chidden Holt by Knightwood and St Francis primary school children. They were assisted by Councillor Kath Tilling, Councillor Alan Dowden and representatives from Asda who sponsored the event.



Café Culture

Would you like to help your local community, learn a new skill and have fun meeting people all at the same time? If so, Valley Leisure would like to hear from you because they are looking for volunteers to help run the Community Café at Knightwood Leisure Centre. The Café is a great meeting place but it can only extend its opening hours if volunteers help with some of the shifts. Free training in Customer Service and Health and Safety will be provided and new staff will be supported until they are comfortable to manage the Café on their own. A commitment of a couple of hours per week is all that is expected. If this idea interests you, please contact Angela Beesley on a.beesley55@btinternet.com for further details