

ZCRA AGM

**Velmead Community Centre
8pm Tuesday 28 February 2006**

These are challenging times for ZCRA. To be credible as representing the community, the Association needs to renew its membership at regular intervals. Up to now, this has meant annual door-to-door collection of the small subscription. For the last few years, largely thanks to the efforts of Kathy Roades, membership has reached around 800 households, a level which requires great effort and repeated visits to collect from those who are not in on the first, second or later visits. Now that Kathy is no longer able to offer this level of effort, ZCRA finds itself without the human resources needed to sustain the existing level of subscriptions. An appeal for help in the last newsletter generated two very welcome responses, but this barely scratches the surface.

ZCRA seeks volunteers, ideally from people who have been members of ZCRA for a year or two, to collect subs and feedback from relatively small areas of the estate - maybe a single street, or section of a street. If you can help, please respond NOW to a member of the committee (see overleaf).

This problem will be discussed at the AGM when, if enough volunteer collectors have not come forward, it will be necessary to vote on changes to the rules for membership of ZCRA.

The formal AGM will be followed by a discussion session with contributions from Parish, District and County Councillors and our local policeman.

Please come to the AGM and pay your subs
(£2/household, £1 for pensioners).
Free light refreshments.

**An evening of Coward and Bennett
Fish and Chip Supper
Velmead Community Centre
Curtain up 8pm
Saturday 11 February 2006**

Following last year's great success, Church Crookham Players and ZCRA have again joined forces to present another evening of humorous short plays and supper for your entertainment. This time the theme is Coward and Bennett.

Free licensed bar (wine and soft drinks). Donations to the Hospice.

**All profits to the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice in Farnham
Pay at the door: £3 entrance; £5 for supper**

ZCRA FETE

**Sunday afternoon
2 July 2006**

Licensed beer tent

BBQ and Hog Roast

WI Teas

Live Jazz Band

**Children's attractions
(subsidised)**

Children's sports

Village stalls

Please note in your diaries NOW!

Volunteer helpers very welcome.

Planning

Redfields Garden Centre 04/01148/OUT
Redfields have now appealed against the refusal of their application to redevelop the site with both houses and a new garden centre.

Watery Lane 05/01501/COU
An application to convert into habitable accommodation the barn at the Albany Farm end of Watery Lane was refused.

Redfields Lane 05/00345/FUL
The close-boarded fence alongside Redfields Lane beyond St Nicholas School was refused planning permission some time ago. The applicant has appealed.

Hitches Lane 04/02562/MAJOR
The appeal against refusal for new housing development was originally rejected by the government, but a legal challenge has forced a review which has yet to be concluded.

Details of these and all other recent planning applications can be viewed on line via the UK Planning portal, to which there is a link from the HDC web site at www.hart.gov.uk.

Horses

Following the recent well-publicised incident with a horse and child at the edge of the playing field, it is timely to remind parents and others that horses are not guaranteed to be kind and friendly animals to all who might wish to approach them. You, and especially your children, are advised:

DO NOT approach the horses.

DO NOT feed the horses.

Playing Field Fence

The fence between the playing field and the horses has been broken down in many places, presumably by people wanting to get into the privately-owned field in which the horses are grazing. This fence is apparently owned by Hart District Council, who have said that it is there only to mark the boundary of their land, not to keep the horses off the playing field.

There are no rights of way across the horse field in this area - the public footpath runs along the southern edge of the field with right-of-way access from Watery Lane on the southern side of Albany Stables, not directly from the playing field.

Hart needs to repair their boundary fence, but in any event a stockproof fence should be put in place before the paddock is used again by horses, especially the one involved in the recent incident.

Please do not use the horse field as a general access area - it is not. And please do not damage any fence between the playing field and the horses. If you see anyone causing criminal damage to this fence, call the police immediately on 999.

Hearing Problems?

If you are worried about deafness, you can now get a hearing test over the telephone via 0845-600-5555.

Refuse Collection

Judging by the number of bins left out on different days, not everyone knows which day their rubbish is collected nowadays. The recent mail shot from Hart Council didn't help very much, since it showed two different days for collections in our area.

A more useful breakdown of collection days by road is on the Hart web site at www.hart.gov.uk under Environment and Planning/Refuse Collection. Lots of other useful information there, too, including details of what can and cannot be recycled.

We await details of the change to alternating collections for household and recyclable waste in the hope that HDC can at last get their act together.

Hart Web Site

The Hart District Council web site at www.hart.gov.uk has recently been revamped and now contains much more useful information than before. If you have an internet connection, it is well worth a browse. If you are not on line, terminals are available in the library.

Community Centre

Confidential negotiations continue between Hart District Council and Crookham Village Parish Council about the potential handover of the Community centre and adjacent facilities to the Parish Council, currently aimed at a seamless handover in the Summer of 2006 if terms can be agreed.

CVPC continues to seek potential members of a management committee from both users and interested members of the local community. Please contact Julia Ambler on 625808 about management opportunities.

CVPC is also keen to hear from all present and potential users with an interest in helping to shape the future of the leisure facilities at Velmead.

Assisted Travel

Did you know that, in addition to the statutory schemes for half fare bus passes for eligible people, Hart Council offers the following:

£35 worth of NTT Travel Tokens if you are aged 60 years or more and receiving one of the following:

- Housing or Council Tax Benefit
 - Second Adult Rebate on your Council Tax Bill
- £48.50 worth of NTT Travel Tokens if you are 16 years or more and suffering from one or more of the following disabilities:
- any disability or injury which has a substantial and long-term adverse affect on your ability to walk
 - learning disabilities that significantly affect social functioning (not mental illness)
 - profoundly or severely deaf
 - without speech, registered blind or partially sighted
 - without the use of both arms
 - unable to drive under S92 of the Road Traffic Act 1988

Contact Hart Council for more details on 01252-62122.

All those who are over 60 should watch for announcements about the free local bus travel for the over-60s announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his 2005 budget. The scheme is scheduled to start from April 2006.

Garden Theft

Some fencing was recently stolen from a house on the estate. If you have experienced any thefts or vandalism recently, please inform ZCRA.

Older driver?

Hampshire County Council's Road Safety Team offers an independent, confidential, driving assessment for older drivers which helps to prolong fitness to drive. The assessment, which costs £25, is not a test but offers help and advice. You get a comprehensive written report together with helpful tips about driving techniques. The assessment is done from your home, using your own car, on a route planned to suit your requirements. Contact the HCC Road Safety Team on 01962 846888.

ZCRA Committee

Chairman/Newsletter: **David Jackson** tel/fax 615052

Treasurer/Membership: **Val Hall** 613970

Secretary: **Anne Foulsham** 629934

Chris Hall 613970 **Rajan** 623050

Helen Parberry 671909 **Kathy Rodes** 627093

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Keep an eye on the ZCRA noticeboard outside the Spar shop for any late news.