



# Elvetham Heath

Parish Council

SPRING 2015

## Elvetham Heath Matters...

### New Play Park in The Key

The diggers are booked, the equipment has been ordered and work will start at the end of April on the revamped play area in The Key. After a lot of planning and consultations, our working party of councillors and residents has finalised a design that gives a lot of the requested equipment including:

- A half pipe skate ramp
- A zip wire
- More creative toddler play
- A climbing frame for mid age group (5-9years)
- A slide

There will also be a cycleway, where young children can ride bikes and scooters around a circuit. This is a creative use of the space left, at minimum cost, and is likely to be popular, based on how many children arrive at the park on a bike or scooter.



A little taster for you. This is the zip wire which is included in the plan!

Pictures and plans are being finalised and will be on display at our Annual Residents' Evening and we hope to be given the opportunity to take them into school for the children to see. We hope to add to the playground at a future date by applying for a grant for a basket swing.

### Stop Press - Councillor Vacancy

Following the resignation of a councillor, we now have a vacancy. If you care about Elvetham Heath and have a small amount of time to spare, please consider joining your Parish Council. More information can be found on our website.

### News in Brief



#### Pylon

The pylon on the edge of Elvetham Heath on the Hartley Wintney Road will be taken down in the next few months. We have heard from SSE that underground cables have been laid which will make the pylon redundant.

#### Dog Poo Bags

We have a supply of dog poo bags which you are welcome to call in and collect from the parish office. These are provided free of charge by Hart District Council.

### Diary Dates

#### Annual Residents' Evening

**Wednesday 15th April**

**7.30pm The Key Centre**

Your chance to meet the councillors over a glass of wine, ask questions and hear about our projects.

#### Village Fete

**Saturday 6th June**

**1-5pm Village Green**

Family fun for all. Your help for an hour setting up or manning a ride during the day would be really appreciated.

#### Summer Concert

**Saturday 18th July**

**12-7pm Village Green**

Do you perform in or know of a good music act? If so, get in touch!

Your councillors: Marilyn Robson (Chair) Emma Watmore (Vice Chair) Chris Alden Nicky Bond  
George Brown Richard Woods

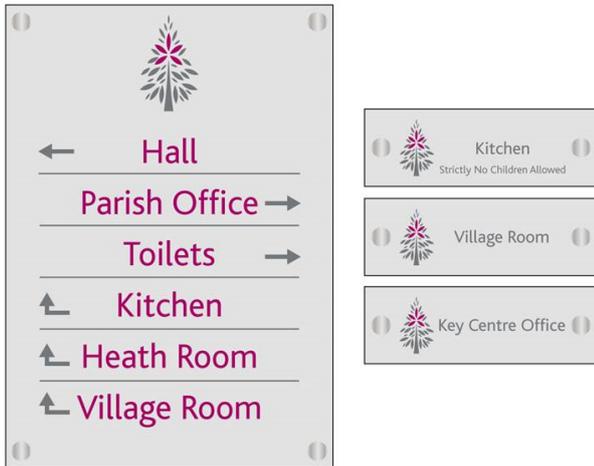
Parish Clerk: Jan Hyatt clerk@elvethamheath.org.uk 01252 819204 www.elvethamheath.org.uk

Parish Office: The Key Centre Elvetham Heath Fleet Hampshire GU51 1HA



## Key Centre & Car Park Signage

We have recently had some signage inside The Key Centre installed, as we had feedback that people often didn't know where the different rooms were.



Outside, we are trying to deter people from leaving their Morrisons trolleys in The Key car park as they cause a nuisance and have caused damage to cars, so if you do use our car park whilst shopping, please return your trolley to the store afterwards.



We have also put signs on the bollards by the blue badge spaces near The Key Centre to ensure these are kept free for people who need them when using the centre. They are often used as a dropping off or collecting area by people who don't want to walk from our car park, and then people who are coming to another activity and have a blue badge can't use them. Even if you are not staying long, please avoid using them if you don't have a badge.



## Buses

Buses are no longer coming through Elvetham Heath. The number of routes has been reduced and those which are still running now only stop at the Park & Ride.

Hampshire County Council has put in place the Fleet, Crookham & Elvetham Heath Taxishare F100/F200 service, which can be pre-booked. This operates Monday to Friday to a set timetable and pre-booked passengers can travel to Fleet Oatsheaf and Fleet Railway Station. The service is like a bus service, except that passengers need to book in advance by 4pm on the day before travel and the journey will be operated by a taxi instead of a bus.

The service costs £2.00 single and £3.50 return. Passengers with a concessionary bus pass can travel free. The taxi will pick up from any of the stops along the route.

For more information, please call 01962 846786.

## Road Adoptions

Work is currently underway in the Kier areas of Elvetham Heath to bring the roads up to an adoptable standard. Progress is being made on Elvetham Heath Way and after Easter when the water level has subsided a little, Persimmon will carry out the necessary work to prove to Hampshire County Council the sustainability of the culverts. This is hopefully the first step towards Elvetham Heath Way being adopted by Hampshire County Council and we will continue to monitor the progress.

## Street Lights & Potholes

On adopted roads, you can report potholes and defective street lights via the Hampshire County Council website. You will be given a reference number and status update reports via email.

The website link is:  
[www3.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/roadproblems)



## Communicating With You

In between these newsletters, we often have news or information to share and that this is communicated via our website, our monthly page in the Elvetham Heath Directory and on the Elvetham Heath Parish Council Facebook page? We encourage you to keep up to date with what is going on! If you have any information that you feel may be useful to other residents, please let us know.

## Annual Residents' Evening

This is your chance to join the council face to face and hear about the things we are working on, and put forward your suggestions. If you have any questions, we welcome them at any time, but on this night, our councillors will all be here to meet you.

This takes place on **Wednesday 15th April 2015 from 7.30pm in The Key Centre.**

We hope you will join us for a glass of wine.



## Key Resident Award

At our Annual Residents' Evening, we give out an award to a resident or small group of residents, who have been involved in making a positive impact in our community. We therefore invite your suggestions about people who you feel would be worthy of our 2015 award. Is there somebody you know who does extra little things around you, have they set up a voluntary organisation, do they do litter picking, or go out of their way to help the people in your street perhaps?

**Please email the clerk on [clerk@elvethamheath.org.uk](mailto:clerk@elvethamheath.org.uk) with your suggestion by 31st March.**



## Grounds Maintenance & Precept

The state of the grass and plants along the roadside verges and roundabouts throughout Elvetham Heath, especially in the summer months, is a constant frustration, and is something we hear regularly about from you. We are pleased to report that we have now received a licence to cultivate which means we will be taking over responsibility for these areas from April.

The Parish Council will use its contractors to carry out the additional work but inevitably this will require extra funds. Some will come from the financial contribution that the developer had to pay for the upkeep of the Heath. Hart District Council will transfer this lump sum to the Parish and it will be invested so that it can be used to subsidise the work for as long as possible. To cover the balance of the cost it has been necessary to increase the parish council part of your council tax (the precept) for the first time in 5 years.

The Parish Council believes that through taking over this work and bringing all the landscaping/grounds maintenance under its control, we will see a noticeable improvement. In order to achieve this, a small increase in the parish precept is unavoidable. It will equate to an average increase of £5 per year - just 42p per month. For a Band D property the parish charge has risen from £53.80 per year to £58.80 (or £4.48 per month to £4.90) which will show on your Council Tax statement as a 9.3% increase.

Given the number of complaints we have received over the last few years about the untidy appearance of the grass and shrubs along the roadsides and on roundabouts, we hope you will think this represents a worthwhile investment in your surroundings. We are always happy to receive your feedback so if you have any comments, please do not hesitate to contact the clerk.

## Litter Picking

Did you know that litter picking on Elvetham heath, which is particularly focussed around The Key, the village green and our other play parks, costs us £10,500 a year? Please don't forget to tidy your litter, and encourage other people to do the same! It would be nice to reduce this cost, so the money could be spent more positively.

# and Finally...

## Farmers' Market

Supporting local' has become a real 'buzz' phrase in recent times!

Buying local supports small businesses in our area and ensures a thriving community. Love your local and come and visit us at Fleet Farmers' Market where we have a wide variety of high quality producers. All our stallholders are passionate about their products and we can assure our market will be worth a visit!

We currently have stalls selling game, beef, pork, bacon, sausages, fish and seafood, gluten free foods, honey, honey-based balms, pies, eggs, bread & pastries, baby and toddler foods, flowers, plants, preserves Indian relishes and samosas, and seasonal vegetables.

Fleet Farmers' Market runs on the 2nd Saturday of each month in The Key on Elvetham Heath from 10am to 1.30pm.

Follow us on Facebook (Fleet Farmers' Market) and Twitter (@Fleet Farmers) to keep up to date with our news!

Dates for 2015

11 April    9 May    13 June    11 July    8 August  
 12 September    10 October    14 November    12 December

## Opening Hours



**Elvetham Heath** Parish Council

Parish Council Office

Opening Hours  
 Monday - Friday  
 9am - 1pm

**01252 819204**

clerk@elvethamheath.org.uk  
 www.elvethamheath.org.uk



## Your Local Authorities - Who Does What

Parish Council The Key Centre The Key GU51 1HA Tel: 01252 819204 Email: clerk@elvethamheath.org.uk	The Key Centre (for bookings phone 01252 623700) The Key car park Turner's Way car park Recreational facilities – play areas, pitches Outdoor green space except nature reserve and ponds
Hart District Council Civic Offices Harlington Way Fleet GU51 4AE Tel: 01252 622122	Refuse collection    Street cleaning    Fly tipping    Housing Parking matters (except The Key & Turner's Way car parks) District leisure facilities    Licensing    Tree preservation orders Planning matters    Watercourse maintenance Community Safety Initiative    Grass verge maintenance Elvetham Heath nature reserve    Council Tax
Hampshire County Council Based at Hook Compound for local highways matters Tel: 08456 035633 All other depts based in Winchester Tel: 01962 841841	Highways including gritting and signage Street lighting Public rights of way Education and learning Libraries Consumer advice and protection Social care Community transport