

## **Annual Residents' Evening Chair's report**

It has been a year of change on the Parish Council. We lost two councillors, Sara Esdale and Stefan Wojciechowski who both moved away from The Heath and co-opted onto the council two new councillors Emma Watmore and Nicky Bond. A third Councillor, Keith Manning, has recently been co-opted which now brings our complement up to our permitted limit of five. We have had a very busy year and are really excited by the projects we are working on and our plans for the future.

### **Identity.**

Our new identity and logo have been designed and will now be filtered out on signage throughout The Heath.

### **The naming of the community centre.**

The community centre has at last been given a name. The Key Centre was chosen from a long list of suggestions put forward by the councillors.

### **Website.**

A new website is being created and we hope that it will be the first port of call when looking for local information.

### **Precept.**

We have not increased the precept again this year. We have been able to do this by careful budgeting and increase in the use of facilities.

### **Kitchen Upgrade.**

A new stainless steel kitchen has been fitted with appliances appropriate to the demands.

### **Farmers Market**

We are very pleased to welcome the Hampshire Farmers Market to The Key on the fourth Saturday of each month between April and October.

### **Village Fete**

After a very successful village fete last year the date for the 2012 Fete has been set a week later so as not to clash with the Hartley Wintney festival. Put the date in your diary, Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

### **Diamond Jubilee Celebrations**

To mark the Diamond Jubilee, Elvetham Heath will be having a Diamond Jubilee Family Walk followed by a picnic/BBQ on the village green. This will take place on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

### **Allotments**

An area of land suitable for allotment has been identified and after consultation with the residents living nearby plans will be submitted to HDC for permission.

### **Sports Pavilion**

Discussions have been taking place between the council and the Elvetham Heath scouts and guides to convert the pavilion for use as a hall for them. A period of consultation with residents living close by will take place and then planning permission will be sought.

### **Play Park near The Key Centre**

We have spoken to many parents who have said that the equipment in the enclosed area is not age appropriate. We are reviewing this central play area with a view to providing an enclosed area for the pre-school age group and a general play area that will span all ages.

### **Football**

Youth football is now being played on the junior pitch on Saturday mornings and hopefully starting next season we will have under 10's girls football on a Sunday.

### **Rugby**

We now have Touch League Rugby for the over 16's on Monday evenings on The Turners Wood playing field. This game is for both genders.

### **Children's Parties**

The Key Centre is a very popular venue for children's parties and is often fully booked with 5 parties most weekends. We have now made available the Village Green rooms (Village Room & Heath Room) for parties. This venue would not have a bouncy castle but allows you to choose your own entertainment and also use the secure outside play area.

### **Park & Ride**

Elvetham Heath Parish Council will be taking over the management of this area and will be able to make the additional car parking available when required for events such as The Hampshire Farmers Market, The Village Fete and Car Show.

It is a pleasure for me to serve on Elvetham Heath Parish Council and for the last two years I have had the privilege and honour of being the chair. I love living here and wherever I go I promote Elvetham Heath as a wonderful place to live. Along with the other dedicated councillors I hope that we can continue to maintain and improve the place that we have all chosen to call home.

**Marilyn Robson**

**Chair, Elvetham Heath Parish Council**