



GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The new development has nearly 400 new occupations of the 1500 proposed. The developers continue to market the site as Biddenham Vale and thus create continued confusion. Lagan Homes the secondary developer behind David Wilson Homes has hesitatingly started to tacitly recognise Great Denham by referring to their site address as Biddenham (Great Denham).

Plans have been approved for the erection of yet another massive hoarding to point the way to Biddenham Vale. This will be placed on the raised banking by the roundabout on Branston Way where you enter the Great Denham residential area.

It would appear that an e-petition has been forwarded to Bedford Borough Council by Kempston residents stating that land north of Kempston Mill Bridge is not in the Parish of Great Denham but is, and has always been, in Kempston. The fact that it was Biddenham for many years seems to have escaped the petitioners attention. More of this following the Borough Councils reaction!

The last couple of months have seen the resignation from the Parish Council of Sue Vint, and we would like to pass on our thanks for the time she spent with us. We are also pleased that we have a new Parish Councillor in Natalie Wilson who joined us this month. Natalie is a new resident of Great Denham and brings with her a background in Town Planning. Welcome Natalie.

November saw the now annual GDPC sponsored Guy Fawkes festival at The Bedford Golf Club. As ever a fantastic display with rides and stalls aimed at children were a very popular attraction. Once again over 1,000 people attended a very successful event. Put this one in your diary for next year.

Plans for the new Great Denham Primary School & Family Learning Centre were pulled from the Planning Committee in October as objections were raised by BBC Highways regarding parking. Following several more meetings with various Officers and Borough Councillors, the Borough Council confirmed that the Park & Ride site would provide parking with a drop off zone for parents to walk their children into school by means of a proposed Toucan crossing to be built in Kingswood Way. There will also be a Traffic Order in place which will see double yellow lines all round the school in Kingswood Way and Greenkeepers Road. We hope to see work begin in early December.

A new river crossing foot-bridge (part of the 106 agreement) is now being proposed to be moved from the original site to further down the east side of the development. This will connect Hillgrounds Kempston with Great Denham. Whilst we welcome stronger links with our boundary neighbours there is an appetite in Great Denham to establish a link with Box End and the water park and facilities there. GDPC are in discussions with BBC regarding the options.

One final note - this time as a bell ringer at St James - I would like to thank all those who responded to the flyer the Tower Captain Brian Toyne sent out last month. We now have a new crop of potential ringers to work with but more are always welcome.

On behalf of the PC and residents of Great Denham I would like to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Kind regards Jim Weir – Chairman Great Denham Parish Council