



## GREAT DENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Biddenham Bulletin – March 2013

In February I explained the plan the Wingfield Estate and David Wilson Homes have for building 300 homes in land currently designated as being part of the Country Park in Great Denham. Things have moved on and the Government Inspector has examined the proposal as part of the Allocations and Designations Plan, which allocates land for housing in the Borough up to 2021. Bedford Borough Council vigorously presented their objections to the plan, which included all the reasons for which we also oppose it. We must now wait for the Inspectors decision which should be available in the summer. I will keep you informed via our Parish website and the Biddenham Bulletin.

In 2012 a planning application to change the site of the old Bromham Bypass nursery into a five pitch Gypsy site was submitted and, following robust opposition was subsequently withdrawn. In February 2013 another application was submitted. This time the applicant has tried to address the objections previously raised, such as highway safety and wildlife habitat using surveys which they have commissioned. We have discussed the application with the planning department and hope it will not succeed. However, it is never safe to make assumptions and at our planning meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> February the Parish Council resolved to object in the strongest possible terms. Full details are on our website and I will keep you informed.

The bus gate continues to be somewhat of a thorn in our side. As I write it is broken again. Bedford Borough Council have changed the designation of the area to a bus lane with the intention of being able to pursue civil prosecutions using automated number plate recognition cameras. However, having taken the step of introducing the bus lane, they have told us there is no money available to install the cameras! This makes no sense, of course, and we continue to pursue the matter with vigour.

You will see that the Park & Ride facility is nearing completion and will soon be available.

The school continues to flourish and is now the venue for all Parish Council meetings, including our Planning Meetings, at which the projector is proving useful to display plans. New local groups are also using the school such as the recently formed Brownie group to whom the Parish Council was pleased to grant a donation.

Our handy man is using his best efforts to keep litter under control and despite a number of requests David Wilson Homes have still not installed any bins. I think this would be particularly helpful at the bus stops and hope to persuade them to provide these. A few weeks ago there was an incident of fly tipping on land behind Greenkeepers Road and Mercia Road. If you see this happening you can report it to Bedford Borough Council using [callcentre@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:callcentre@bedford.gov.uk) The Borough Council go to great efforts to trace and then prosecute offenders.

This goes to print before our next meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March, but I hope that someone will be co-opted at that meeting. We will then be up to full strength once again.

Kind regards

Jim Weir  
Chairman – Great Denham Parish Council  
[www.greatdenham.bedsparishes.gov.uk](http://www.greatdenham.bedsparishes.gov.uk)