



# Great Denham Parish Council

# Great Denham Newsletter December 2014

Great Denham Parish Council was created in 2007 to serve the needs of the local community. The initial 249 houses will gradually be increased by another 1500 over the coming years. We aim to represent your views and concerns as the community grows. This council exists to ensure that as developments in Great Denham progress everybody in the community has the opportunity to keep themselves up to date with the latest news – have your say, sound off, give your views, express your concerns become interactive and have some impact! Members of the Parish Council want to change the way traditional councils work. We want to truly act for all the parishioners and give honest and best judgment by being informed and in touch with all views.



## Season's Greetings to all Great Denham residents



### Coming to the end of 2014 – what's happened and what is happening in the Great Denham Community

#### Amenities:

#### Community Hall

As 2014 draws to a close, we look back at an eventful – if frustrating – year. We had the issue of the DWH viability study holding up all infrastructure and amenities delivery. We lost a library but gained an extra floor in the new community hall. Tenders for construction are now out with builders. The plans are passed and building will start in April 2015 with an anticipated completion in October/November 2015. The community will own and run the community hall. We will register as a charity and draw our trustees from the community – anyone interested in becoming a trustee please email Jim Weir on [jrweir@btinternet.com](mailto:jrweir@btinternet.com) . The full detailed business plan and funding arrangements will be on the Parish Councils website by the end of January 2015.

#### Saxon Way Homes

#### Community Hall

#### Toybox Nursery



## Sainsbury's Local Store

We are all – I'm sure – delighted to give a great welcome from the community to Sainsbury's Local store. The plans are with the Borough Planners at present and a letter from the PC and RA has been sent asking that the planners ensure a speedy passage for these plans. Both the PC and RA have met with Sainsbury's representatives to discuss what they will be delivering for the community. The store will be baking bread on the premises and have fresh produce delivered every day. The store will employ up to 26 full and part-time staff - so some great job opportunities for residents of Great Denham. They will be providing a free ATM outside the store and there will be approx. 52 parking spaces within the district center. Sainsbury's have indicated that they want to play a full role in the community and are looking forward to getting involved in any way that will be helpful. The community has waited 15 years for our own retail convenience store and we know from emails and comments at PC meetings we are all absolutely delighted that Sainsbury's Local have backed their instincts and have committed to invest in Great Denham. We have no doubts that this will be a successful venture for them and an exciting and very useful anchor point and hub for the center of our community for many years to come. We know that our 380 school children are looking forward to having a term topic associated with food and the sources of food. Sainsbury's Local has indicated they would look forward to being involved in working with the school on this topic and playing their part as a full and active stakeholder in our community.



## Superfast Broadband

As every resident in Great Denham knows broadband speeds are abysmal and home working virtually impossible. Following a whole succession of meetings between the PC, BT, DWH, Bedford Borough and even our constituency MP we have agreed the following;

The cabinets serving the new developed parts of Great Denham 126 and 127 plus a new cabinet halfway down Greenkeepers Road will be supplied with fibre optic cable to enable fast broadband speeds. DWH have funded the "gap" required by BT and the delivery date for this has been agreed as 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015. All new parcels for the remaining 800 houses yet to be built will have BT trunking installed during the build programme to enable fibre to be "blown" into each house.

The original 250 homes in Great Denham will have to find funding – probably through the commuted sum – to ensure they also receive faster broadband speeds delivered by fibre optic cable. BT will to use the spine fibre

being supplied to the new development and fit a new cabinet to cover the 250 homes. Costings will be provided sometime later this month.

### **Homes - Growth**

There are now approximately 950 homes in Great Denham with a population approaching 1,700. There are still 800 more new homes to deliver in Great Denham by DWH and their subcontractors. When the building is finished there will be 1750 homes in Great Denham and a population of about 3,500. Now that Greenkeepers and Roads off Greenkeepers are nearly complete DWH is starting to build near the roundabout by the New River Bridge in an area DWH are now calling Great Denham Park!

### **Country Park**

The work on the country park has been progressing with the water lagoons finished in the flood plain and many trees planted. There is also some severe cutting back of existing trees by the flood plain and we hope that this has not been too heavy handed. Early next year the ground will be laid out for the pavilion. It will consist of a café, changing rooms and Ranger Station and accommodation for the Park Ranger. DWH have committed over £100,000 to build an adventure playground in the park along with several other smaller play areas. The sports pitches are in place but have yet to be grassed and finished off.

### **CCTV**

Following a spike in crime in the Parish the PC along with the RA has been looking at some strategic CCTV placement throughout the Parish. A small task force has been formed and discussions have taken place with a camera provider and the monitoring station of Bedford Borough. A survey is being undertaken on the 11<sup>th</sup> December on where to site these cameras for best practical effect. We may have as many as eight cameras set-up in the Parish and we would like to know from residents if they think this is the right direction for the community to take? We have seen how the cameras can be "pixelated out" so as not to be intrusive to residents and we will be presenting more information on this at our next **PC and public meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> January at Great Denham School 7:30pm. Come and have your say and express your views. If not able to attend please let us know your views by emailing our Parish Clerk Roz at [gdclerk@hotmail.com](mailto:gdclerk@hotmail.com).**

### **Great Denham Primary School**

From the school opening in September 2012 and being rated as a good school with outstanding features after its first year the school now has 380 students. The school was designed for a capacity of 420 and will reach that in September 2015. It is clear that with 800 homes still to build, plans need to be in place to allow for the expansion of the school, in order to accommodate future resident's children. The PC has identified land next to the school and has written to planners to outline why some of this land should be earmarked for school development and not housing development. The school governors are analyzing in detail the timescale and numbers that will be needed from the impact of the additional 800 homes yet to be built. The school will also be approaching Local Authority officials in the New Year to get support for the growth plans.


### **Pioneer Priest**

The Parish Church of St James in Biddenham is also the parish church of Great Denham. In order to better serve the needs of our ever expanding population within the parish the Bishop of Bedford has appointed a "pioneer priest". The appointment has gone to a married couple David and Suzette who will job share the role. They will live in Great Denham and their appointment will take effect from late January 2015. We know from speaking to them that they are keen to get to know residents in the community and look at ways they can provide services and support for the parish as a whole. There will be a service of welcome/licensing on 29<sup>th</sup> January 7:30pm in the school hall.

# 2014-15 Recycling & Rubbish Collections Dates

## Your waste collection day is **MONDAY**

Month	1	8	15	22	29	31
December	1	8	15	22	29	
January	5	12	19	26		
February	2	9	16	23		
March	2	9	16	23	30	
April	6	13	20	27		
May	4	11	18	25		
June	1	8	15	22	29	
July	6	13	20	27		
August	3	10	17	24	31	
September	7	14	21	28		
October	5	12	19	26		
November	2	9	16	23	30	

 Christmas Collections - Change in collection day

Orange = Recycling collection

Green = Garden Waste collection

Black = Rubbish collection

Red = No collection on this day

Green waste collection will be suspended from week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> December until week ending 25<sup>th</sup> January 2015

Please don't leave your bins on the footpath once they have been emptied, thank you.

Finally we hope that our growing community can look forward to a happy and peaceful holiday season filled with goodwill and good neighborliness. Have a happy New Year.



### Next Meeting

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 Parish Council & Public Meeting** 19:30 – 21:00 Great Denham Primary School

### Councillor Contacts

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Please contact us on any of the above and visit the sites below for more info and regular updates.

Website: <http://www.greatdenham.bedsparishes.gov.uk/> Twitter: [https://twitter.com/GtDenhamPC/with\\_replies](https://twitter.com/GtDenhamPC/with_replies)