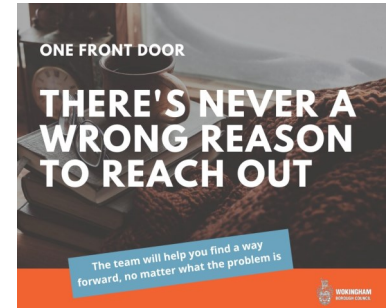




**One Front Door**, a service led by Citizens Advice Wokingham, can help residents find the support and advice they need on a range of different topics from energy costs to loneliness, mental health to welfare benefits and debt.

Call the team on 0808 278 795 for a confidential chat or use the form on the website [www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvicewokingham.org.uk)



## FBC COMMUNITY DROP-IN

Everyone welcome!



The FBC holds a Community Drop In every Thursday morning between 9am and 12pm in the FBC Café.

**The drop-in is for those who recently moved to the UK and those offering hosting or other support.**

It's a safe and welcoming space for signposting, connection and practical support as well as providing an opportunity to practice conversational English.

**We look forward to welcoming you.**

FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES

There is also a **Friendship Table** at the FBC Centre café on Tuesday mornings - anyone is welcome to pop in between 10am and 12 noon for a warm welcome and a friendly chat.



The Parish Council is holding its **Annual Gathering** on 31 May - all are welcome. If you can let us know you are attending it would be helpful - but otherwise please just turn up. We will be delighted to see you!



## Finchampstead

Parish Council

is pleased to invite you to the 2022

### ANNUAL GATHERING

**for Parishioners and others involved with the Parish  
on Tuesday 31 May 2022 at 7pm at the FBC Centre**

Please come along and hear about our work over the last year. There will be an opportunity to chat to Parish Councillors over refreshments after the meeting.

The event will include a talk on the Gorse Ride regeneration and the presentation of our Platinum Jubilee Awards.

FBC Centre, Gorse Ride North, Finchampstead RG40 4ES  
Tel: 0118 908 8164 email [clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)



**Picnic in the Park  
with BRASS BAND  
followed by  
BEACON LIGHTING**



**Thursday 2nd June 2022**

**Finchampstead celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

- **6:30 pm to 8:30pm ~ bring your own picnic to the Memorial Park and enjoy music (organised by the Finchampstead Society)**
- **8:30 pm ~ a walk to St. James' Church**
- **9:30 pm ~ Beacon Lighting with a Piper, Bubbly and Cake**



## Happy and Glorious



An exhibition celebrating  
HM Queen Elizabeth II's  
Platinum Jubilee and her  
longstanding connection  
with Berkshire



Tues - Thurs: 9am to 5pm  
Fri: 9am to 4.30pm

Thursday 26th May -  
Friday 26th August 2022

**BRO**

THE BERKSHIRE RECORD OFFICE  
9 Coley Avenue, Reading, Berkshire RG1 6AF  
[www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk](http://www.berkshirerecordoffice.org.uk)



Delicious, fresh



**Strawberries and more £2.50 per punnet  
from Manor Farm Finchampstead**

(cash only)



On sale from



**the Sports Club veranda at  
Finchampstead Memorial Park**

**Tues - Fri 8.30am - 11am**

(Closing earlier if all sold)

Please do pre order to avoid disappoint  
by texting Bev on **07887 637789**

Profits in aid of  
Finchampstead Memorial Park  
(Charity no 300152)  
Play Area repainting.



Please bring your own bags





We are delighted to confirm that the Queen's Oak Pub has again been listed as an Asset of Community Value - demonstrating its importance to the Parish and the community.

Community assets are buildings and pieces of land that are essential to the social well being of the area. This is not just about protecting historical buildings. It is about preserving the well-being of the community and protecting assets that are well used and loved.

The Localism Act (2011) introduced a Community Right to Bid (CRTB) on assets of community value and in 2017 Finchampstead Parish Council successfully applied to have the pub designated as an Asset of Community Value. This original designation expired in March 2022 and we submitted a further application to renew the listing, which has now been approved.

This means that if the worst happens and the Tenant or the Brewery get into difficulties and the property is put up for sale, the Parish Council can step in and will be given 6 months to try and find a way to ensure the property continues to be a place for the community.

The Queen's Oak Pub, Church Lane, Finchampstead [www.thequeensoak.com](http://www.thequeensoak.com)

### Tennis at the Memorial Park

There are two outdoor tarmac courts at the Memorial Park which are open from 7.30am to 9.30pm in summer and daylight hours for the rest of the year.

A court costs £5 to book for 1 hour for up to 4 people to play.

Access is via a keypad on the gate to the courts. The access code is emailed to the booker when payment is received.

**COURT BOOKINGS  
& Payment ONLINE**



SCAN ME

**Scan the App to book**

For assistance call 07701 701199 or 07887 637789  
Finchampstead Park Management Committee

Courts can be booked by logging on to <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/finchampsteadpark> or by scanning the app above:



**CHANCE ♥  
TO THRIVE**



Wokingham Borough Council has launched a Crowdfunding campaign to support young Ukrainian refugees (up to 23 years) arriving in the Borough.

The money raised will pay for the sort of things children and young people will need to live here as well as possible but that go beyond basic provision - for example tech for school, college or university, a pair of football boots or dance shoes

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/chance-to-thrive-helping-young-ukrainian-refugees>



## **New anti-social behaviour service from Wokingham Borough Council**

The Borough Council has launched a new service to tackle anti-social behaviour and other issues across the borough that affect residents' wellbeing

Here is a list of some of the issues the team will deal with, when they do not require police attendance:

- Domestic noise nuisance, such as loud music, large scale DIY
- Noise and dust from construction sites
- Breaches of conditions attached to licensed premises
- Unauthorised street trading or charity collections
- Fly tipped or burning of rubbish (either trade or domestic bonfires)
- Littering and litter from vehicles
- Unsatisfactory waste management at commercial and domestic premises
- Abandoned vehicles, bicycles, shopping trolleys, caravans
- Nuisance vehicle use, such as car meets, car repairs or sales on public roads
- Fly posting and unauthorised advertising (such as banners and A-boards)
- Unauthorised encampments
- Neighbourhood nuisance where there is an impact on the wider community
- Disturbances in or disrespecting public spaces (as distinct from public order or breach of the peace which are police matters), dogs out of control, drinking, barbecues

**The team will also undertake regular inspections of anti-social behaviour hot spots, encouraging and enforcing responsible behaviour, such as:**

- Waste carriers to ensure proper licensing and disposal methods
- Commercial premises for waste management
- Parks and open spaces where ASB is reported
- Licensed premises associated with disorderly behaviour

**The team will include an animal warden to handle stray dogs, tackle animal neglect and promote responsible ownership. The team will work closely with food safety officers who'll work with retailers, pubs and restaurants, a licensing team overseeing alcohol sales, betting shops, arcades and taxis and a housing team supervising landlords in the private rented sector.**

### **To contact the service**

Email: [asb@wokingham.gov.uk](mailto:asb@wokingham.gov.uk)

Phone contact will be via the borough council's customer contact centres:

Phone (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday): 0118 974 6000

Phone (out of hours): 0800 212 111 (Request the anti-social behaviour team)

**If a crime is occurring, or there are threats or violence, please call the police on 999 or 101.**





We hope that many of you will support this local event - the Parish Council will have a stall so do look out for us and take the opportunity to come and have a chat with Councillors and staff.

**FINCHAMPSTEAD VILLAGE  
SUMMER FETE**

*'A Right Royal Event!'*

**SATURDAY 18TH JUNE 2022  
11AM - 3PM**

**FINCHAMPSTEAD MEMORIAL GROUND,  
THE VILLAGE**

**ENTERTAINMENT  
ARENA**

**PROFESSIONAL  
FACE PAINTER**

**MUSIC**

**ICE  
CREAMS**

**SWEETS**

**RAFFLE!**

**MAGICIAN**

**CAKES**

**BBQ**

**DOG  
SHOW!**

**BOUNCY  
CASTLE**

**PIMMS!**

**STALLS & GAMES**

**PROUDLY SPONSORED BY** avocado  
property



## **Litter Warden vacancy at the Parish Council**

One of our two part time Litter Wardens will be leaving us in mid June and we are looking for a replacement. The Litter Wardens collect litter mainly from our roadsides, adding to the litter clearance that the Borough Council undertakes, and helping to keep our Parish even cleaner. The post involves 15 to 25 hours per month, with the litter picking undertaken at a time to suit the post holder.

If you think you might be interested please get in touch by emailing

[clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)

## **Ramblers wellbeing walks**

It's almost impossible not to feel good when we're walking outdoors – it's a natural mood-booster! And the great news is we don't need to walk far or fast to feel its effects on our health and wellbeing. Simply getting out is a tonic for our minds and bodies, and it can be sociable too.



Almost all of us can manage a stroll, and Ramblers Wellbeing Walks make it easier to start walking and stay active. And you'll certainly never be short of good company.

Whether you used to enjoy walking but have lost your fitness or want to get started to improve your wellness, we're all in it together. We're a friendly bunch so you'll get the warmest of welcomes. Everyone walks for their own reasons, whether to ward off illness, manage health conditions or boost their wellbeing. Yet we all get more out of it by walking together.

All our short group walks are led by an experienced Ramblers Wellbeing Walk leader along tried-and-tested routes. Because you'll be walking with others, you'll feel safe and supported and have fun along the way too.

Local walks include a 1 mile stroll around the California Country Park and longer 2.5 mile walks starting from the Finchampstead Surgery and around Sand Martins Golf Course. There are walks along the River Blackwater, and if you fancy going a bit further afield there are walks at Cantley Park, Dinton Pastures Country Park and many other locations.

<https://beta.ramblers.org.uk/go-walking/wellbeing-walks>

## **California Country parkrun**

A free, fun, and friendly weekly 5k community event. Walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate – it's up to you!

The parkrun takes place every Saturday at 9am at the California Country Park, Nine Mile Ride, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG40 4HU.

The course is run on a mixture of tarmac paths, gravel paths and trail paths. Some sections of the course may accumulate mud, leaves and puddles after rain. Dependent on availability, marshals will be at key sections of the course, or signs will be in place.

Parkrun is free but you do need to register before you first come along. You only have to register once.

[www.parkrun.org.uk/californiacountry/](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/californiacountry/)



## **Rural crime prevention advice from Thames Valley Police**

Priority: **5** 4 3 2 1



CRIME PREVENTION

Thames Valley Police has seen an increase in reported thefts and burglaries in rural areas.

A good standard of building security is very important in rural areas, especially for outbuildings that may not be visited for weeks at a time. Due to their remote locations, the following security measures may be beneficial.

To protect your rural home or business:

- keep the boundaries of your land and property well-maintained and secure
- fit good quality window locks and consider security bars and grilles for vulnerable windows and openings
- make sure windows and door frames are secure and in good repair
- keep all doors and windows shut and locked when not in use
- install a visible burglar alarm with security lighting
- fit strong locks to sheds, garages and outbuildings
- make sure gates cannot be lifted off or have their fixing bolts removed
- use locking posts or temporary obstructions to control wide access points to yards
- check security equipment regularly to ensure it works properly

For additional security you could also:

- install automatic security lights that come on at dusk and turn off at dawn
- install CCTV cameras to watch over the most vulnerable areas of the property
- install a monitored intruder alarm and entry control system
- establish a single gated entrance and exit, removing all private access points that are not in use
- use locking posts or temporary obstructions to control large openings
- plant thorny hedging to act as a natural barrier
- dig deep ditches to control and deter unwanted vehicle access
- invert and cap gate hinges
- make sure fixing bolts are secure and use covered padlocks
- install warning signs

To help reduce the risk of illegal and unauthorised occupation, incursions and encampments you could:

- look closely at the perimeter to ensure it is as secure as possible
- consider using large tree trunks, rocks, ditching and earth mounds around boundaries to prevent and restrict vehicle access
- keep unused land maintained and free from litter and other waste

You can sign up to Country Watch, a Thames Valley Alert messaging system specifically developed for people who live or work in rural communities to receive crime alerts, witness appeals, galleries of wanted criminals or suspects, information on community groups, events or meetings. Anyone signed up to Thames Valley Alert can receive Country Watch messages as part of their normal service. Just log on to your account and tick the Country Watch box under Community Interests. You can visit [www.thamesvalleycountrywatch.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleycountrywatch.co.uk) for further information.

Please contact us if you have any information relating to crime in your neighbourhood. Report online at [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk) or call us on 101. Always dial 999 in an emergency.



## Some of our recent activities

Here are just a few of the things we have been up to over the last month or so. We have:

- Held a Main Council meeting, an Extraordinary Meeting and meetings of the Planning Committee and the Finance & General Management Committee.
- Attended a meeting of the Gorse Ride Steering Group (Cllr Steve Bowers chairs the Group).
- Had our application to list the Queen's Oak Pub as an Asset of Community Value approved (see page 3 of this newsletter).
- Held the first roadside community speed watch session under the new Thames Valley Police scheme.
- Completed the Parish Council's accounts for 2021/22. Once approved by the Council in June and submitted to the External Auditor these will be available for public inspection.
- Received approval of our affairs from the Internal Auditor.
- Updated our Financial Regulations and our Risk Management Policy.
- Received £415,000 in Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds.
- Completed and published the CIL Regulation 62A Monitoring Report for 2021/22  
<https://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk/finance/cil>
- Submitted the Annual Return for the Finchampstead Village Club - the Parish Council is the sole Trustee of the Charity.
- Drafted our Annual Report for 2021/22, for distribution at the Annual Gathering on 31 May and then to all households across the Parish. It will also be published on our website.
- Had 1013 users - including 954 new users - on our website with 2810 page views. The most popular pages are local walks and Council meetings and minutes.



The Finchampstead Future Group, made up of Parish Councillors and local volunteers, is currently preparing the final draft of the **Finchampstead Neighbourhood Development Plan**. This will be submitted to the Borough Council for the official Regulation 15 review in due course.



*Staff are now working in our office at the FBC Centre on certain days, while continuing to work from home on other days. If you would like to see a member of staff please get in touch to ensure we will be in the office when you wish to visit.*

## **FINCHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

PARISH OFFICE, FBC CENTRE, GORSE RIDE NORTH, FINCHAMPSTEAD RG40 4ES  
Tel: 0118 908 8164 email: [clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@finchampstead-pc.gov.uk) [www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk](http://www.finchampstead-pc.gov.uk)



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