

Finchampstead Society Meeting 15-6-21 Planning & Environment Report

Planning Developments

- **Relocation of the War Memorial** : The relocation of the War Memorial will be subject to public consultation. The Council agreed that, should the relocation of the Memorial proceed, its chosen site would be the verge adjacent to the Memorial Park.
- **Neighbourhood Development Plan** : The WBC decision not to proceed with the development of a new 'garden village' of 15,000 dwellings near Grazeley will have an impact on housing development in Finchampstead. The FNDP accept the reality of this situation and will continue to work with WBC to ensure that any additional housebuilding is consistent with the policies and objectives of the FNDP.
- **Park View & Car Workshop** : Following an appeal, car sales will be allowed on the site, but power tools or machinery cannot be used on vehicles stored or displayed for sale.
- **California Crossroads** : Road improvements at the Crossroads are likely to be delayed for a year due to increased traffic movements as a result of the closure of The Ridges.

Cemex/RSPB Nature Reserve

- The working group formed by the Parish Council to progress outstanding issues has held its first meeting.

Barkham Solar Farm

- The Parish Council supports this project in principle, but has two main issues. The first concerns the screening and boundary at the point where the site backs onto California Country Park and its potential impact on the rural/woodland nature of the park. The second is a suggestion by the Parish Council for a cycling/pedestrian route to be created on the site and running parallel with the road.

Greyhound Pub & Restaurant

- The Greyhound, which has been leased by Brucan Pubs, will reopen in September.

Wellingtonia Avenue

- Following completion of the pilot project involving eight trees towards the end of last year, most of the remaining trees were then surveyed in April. After reports have been prepared for each of the trees, it is proposed that a seminar will be held with the owners to discuss the reports and give guidance on measures to ensure the health and longevity of the trees.

Major Roads Programme

- **Barkham Bridge**: The new road and bridge are now open ahead of schedule.

Gordon Wrigley
22-6-21