

Fairfield Village Community Association

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2018

How to Add Value to your Property

When it comes to buying a property, people look at your house, what enhancements you have made, and they also look at the community where your property is located.

The District Housing Plan and the local Neighbourhood Plan may add value to your community or it may not.

It is, therefore, imperative that the community gets behind the Neighbourhood Plan and help shape where you live.

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

In very simple terms, a Neighbourhood Plan is:

- A document that sets out planning policies for the neighbourhood area – planning policies are used to decide whether to approve planning applications
- Written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, rather than the Local Planning Authority
- A powerful tool to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place.

Local people can create a plan that allows them to develop planning policies that reflect the priorities of their area and have real legal weight. The whole community then decides at a referendum vote whether the local authority should bring the plan into force.

The Neighbourhood Plan can identify solutions to local needs, e.g. services & recreation facilities.

An initial Neighbourhood Planning meeting was held 22nd January and was well supported by residents from Fairfield & Stoneybridge. There was a presentation by a Planning Officer from the District Council and a representative from Chaddersley Corbett, who have an adopted Neighbourhood plan, shared their experiences and the benefits a plan can bring.

Next Neighbourhood Plan meeting, Monday 26th February, 7pm, Bell Inn; at this meeting the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will be formed. PLEASE ATTEND – You are all invited.

Keep up to date with all things Neighbourhood Plan via Fairfield Village Community Association (meetings First Saturday of each month, Village Hall 10am) and do get involved with consultations that will be taking place over the months ahead.

Fairfield Village Community Association is committed to creating a safe community for everyone

Residents & Parents of children attending Fairfield First School have contacted the Association over the past two years highlighting obstructed footpaths and that to navigate the obstruction they are having to walk on the busy and at times dangerous Stourbridge Road; unnecessarily putting the elderly, people with mobility aids and young children at risk. There have been incidents where elderly residents have been unable to get to the Post Office as the gap left by a parked car is not wide enough for their mobility aid.

During County Council traffic surveys vehicles were recorded driving through the village at speeds between 35 mph & 50 mph – this was between 3pm and 4pm.

Luckily for Fairfield, there are safe parking places for vehicles – Recreation Ground, Swan Inn car park, the lay-by south of the village and, when not being used, the Village Hall.

If you must park on the footpath (an action that FVCA cannot legally endorse), we request that you leave space wide enough for a double pushchair.

Assistance needed to help maintain public footpaths around Fairfield, Wildmoor & Stoneybridge

The Parish Footpath Warden (who is a volunteer) needs your help to cut back vegetation & repair styles.

Equipment and training will be provided.

If you can help, a few hours a month, please contact the Parish Clerk:

Tel: 01299 270722

Email: belbroughtonpc@live.co.uk

Please clean up your dog's mess

Several residents have commented about the increase in dog mess in our community, especially on Mount Rd & on the path along Brook Rd. There have also been reports of dogs fouling on resident's front gardens

Our community is fortunate to have suitably located dog waste bins, so there is no excuse to keep our roads, paths & verges dog mess free.



Financial Support For Residents

Did you know that Belbroughton United Charities provides grants for the relief of poverty **for residents in the Parish of Belbroughton & Fairfield**?

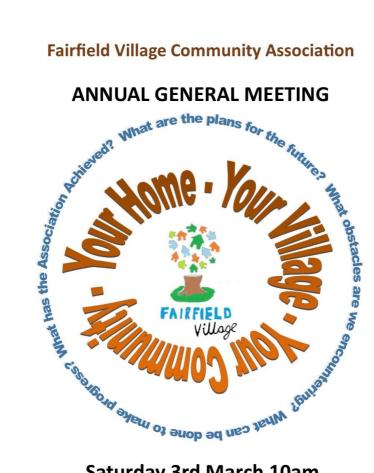
If you know of a resident in the Parish struggling to pay their bills, keeping their home warm or have little food to eat Belbroughton United Charities offers one off grants.

To apply or for more information contact:

Pauline Jones, Telephone: 0121 453 7785, Email: pjones456@talktalk.net

Fairfield Village Community Association

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Saturday 3rd March 10am Village Hall

Refreshments, cakes & biscuits will be provided

Nominations Needed: Chair, Secretary, Treasurer & Officers Interested? Speak to one of our members, email fvcommunityassociation@outlook.com, tel. 01527 833583

318 Bus Service Update

Diamond are withdrawing from the 318 bus service with effect from 25th February, the service will be operated by Central Buses from 26th February 2018

It has been confirmed that there will be no changes in the route or the current timetable of the 318.

Central Buses will not accept the Diamond season tickets, Diamond are advertising refunds on their website.

Customers who have purchased a Diamond 318 service term pass will be entitled to a pro-rata refund for the remainder of the pass after the termination of this service. Please contact their customer services department after 24th February for further details.

Diamond Customer Services, Hallbridge Way Tipton Road Tividale West Midlands B69 3HW

Telephone: 0121 322 2222

Email: comments@diamondbuses.com

YOUR Community Association Meeting

First Saturday, 10am Village Hall (refreshments from 9.30am).

YOU live here, so have YOUR say in what we should be doing.

Fairfield Village Community Association works to improve life in Fairfield & Stoneybridge.

Local Community Transport

BURT Community Transport

Bromgrove Urban and Rural Transport, or BURT, is Bromsgrove's community transport minibus. The bus assists vulnerable residents of Bromsgrove District who are unable to make essential journeys by conventional transport, either because of personal mobility/disability difficulties or because of the non availability of a suitable service.

The bus is adapted for wheelchair users. BURT is operated by local charity Bromsgrove and Redditch Network.

All journeys are within Bromsgrove District and to book the service BARN will need 3-days notice.

For further information Telephone: 01527 585893

Email: burt@burtrides.org.uk

Rural Rides

This is a community car scheme based in Bromsgrove and run by Royal the Voluntary Service. Volunteers use their cars to provide transport to those who are unable to make essential journeys by conventional transport. This may be either due to personal mobility problems or, because of the non-availability of a suitable service.

Eligibility:

- Must pay Council Tax to Bromsgrove District Council
- Journeys can be for social, welfare, recreational, medical or educational reasons
- You are unable to make your journey, due to personal mobility difficulties, by any other means or suitable transport

The journey can be outside of the district A minimum of 3 days notice is required to book a journey

For further information or to book transport telephone 01527 879290. Email: worcestershirewarwickshirehub@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

Village Hall 200 Club

With top prizes of up to £200.00, join the Village Hall 200 Club. It is only £1.00 p/mth.

The Club supports the Village Hall's ongoing maintenance.

Interested? Contact Linda Garvin,

tel: 01527 834935



Hereford & Worcester Fire Service asks:

How is your parking? Can we get passed your car in an Emergency? Every second counts when someone needs our help.

Please do not double park.



www.fairfieldvillage.co.uk fvcommunityassociation@outlook.com

Herbert Protocol

Do you care for someone with dementia or a vulnerable adult that may wander off and get lost? Please adopt the Herbert Protocol.



The Herbert Protocol is as a simple risk reduction tool to be used in the event of a person with Dementia, Alzheimer's or other vulnerability going missing.

It consists of a form that contains vital information about a person at risk that can be passed to the police, if the person is reported missing. A recent photograph of the person should also be kept with the form, if possible.

The basis of the scheme is for vital information about the person such as medication, description, significant places in the person's life and their daily routine, to be pre-recorded on a form. It encourages carers, families, friends or neighbours, to hold information about the person with Dementia that can help the police find them, if they do go missing.

The form is completed in a calm, stress-free environment, being retained by the family/carer/neighbour until any such incident occurs. When reporting a missing person the caller is asked whether a Herbert Protocol form is available and the dispatched officer is informed of any positive responses. Upon arrival, the carer/family member hands the completed form to the police officer.

For further information and to download forms visit https://www.westmercia.police.uk/article/20154/The-Herbert-Protocol or contact Fairfield Village Community Association.

It's your Village Hall

If you live in the Fairfield Ward why not become a trustee. One meeting a month on the first Wednesday of each month. For further information telephone Conrad 01527 833583 or email secretary.fvh@outlook.com.

Be a Hero and Banish Grot from our Community

Be a hero on the second Saturday of each Month and help clear our community of Grot.

Grot is lurking along our verges and in the hedges; with your assistance our village will be Grot free.

Meet outside the Village Hall at 10.30am, equipment will be provided - please wear suitable clothing.



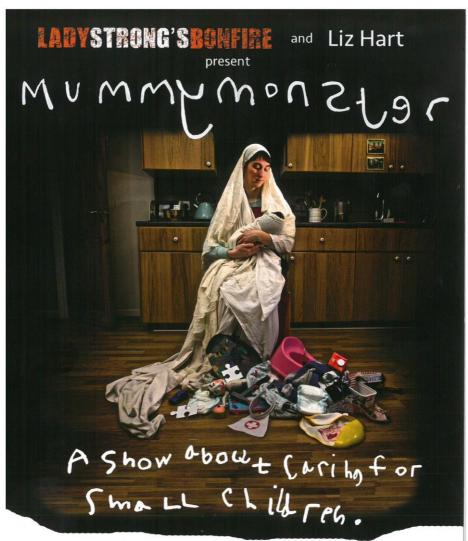
Donate an Hour for a Grot Free Community.

Take The 100 Yard Challenge

Spruce up your property with the simple 100 yards challenge.

Once a week or fortnight litter pick 50 yards either side of the entrance to your property/driveway.

By doing so not only will you help make the village grot free, you will also make the entrance to your property more attractive.



FAIRFIELD VILLAGE HALL (B61 9LZ)

Photography copyright Ben Dowden

Saturday 10 March 6:30 pm £9.50 (Standard) / £7.50 (16 and Under)





BOOK NOW: 01527 577 286. Fairfield Post Office, 83 Stourbridge Road, Fairfield, Bromsgrove, B61 9LY

Refreshments and Homemade Cakes will be on sale before the show and during the interval. shindig.org.uk













Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL LOTTERY FUNDED ENGLAND





They send a taxi/courier to you to collect your bank card. With this and your PIN, they spend your money.

THE COURIER

If you've been a victim of this crime call the police on 101.







Mummy Monster - Saturday 10th March

Honest, funny, moving one-woman theatre show about caring for small children and the things that tip you over the edge. Those 'in the thick of it' need to see this show!

Mummy Monster is written and performed by Liz Hart. It is about one woman's journey from a seeming state of balance into a monstrous state where she is no longer fully in control. The show explores the times when you as a parent "lose it," and is an honest look at the pressures of parenting.

Mummy Monster is a powerful and exciting show that is frank, funny and ferocious combining visual, physical and comic theatre.



www.fairfieldvillage.co.uk fvcommunityassociation@outlook.com

During the research and development of Mummy Monster Liz Hart worked with Bannerman Road Children's Centre and Shanti Sherson, Arts Development officer at the Wellspring Centre, Barton Hill, Bristol. The outcome is a show that is lively and accessible and will reach those people that may never go to the theatre, but do often find themselves in the kitchen.

Mummy Monster is a tale of isolation and adoration and is for anybody who has spent long hours with small children, or who cares about anybody who does.

Liz Hart says about the show "Since becoming a parent I had almost stopped going to the theatre. Mummy Monster is written for those who do not go to the theatre, but do regularly find themselves in the kitchen. I began to perform in private kitchens and in community venues that were already familiar to my target audiences and that had crèche facilities close by. I have followed the performances by a discussion around the kitchen table and have discovered that parents from very different backgrounds to me are having similar experiences."

This show is suitable for adults and children aged 13yrs+

Tickets on sale from Fairfield Post Office. Adults £9.50 Under 16s £7.50 Running time: 45 mins + post show discussion

Shut That Lid for a Cleaner Fairfield

When your lid does not shut on your Wheelie Bin and rubbish is piled high the wind may blow your rubbish or recycling in to the surrounding area.

Please make sure your lid is properly closed, check & litter pick the surrounding area after your bin has been emptied.

Your assistance would be appreciated, and our village will be a lot cleaner.

Thank you.



Fairfield Village Hall Annual General Meeting



Wednesday 2nd May 7.30pm Fairfield Village Hall

Residents within the Electoral Ward of Fairfield in the Parish of Belbroughton are invited to elect the Committee that will Manage their Village Hall

Let's Celebrate & Party (and we do like to party)

To celebrate the wedding of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle there will be a party at the village Hall on Saturday 19^{th} May. Look out for the flyers & poster.

Computers Courses from Absolute Beginners to Improvers

The County Council have arranged three courses, which will be delivered at Rubery Library, 7 Library Way, Rubery, B45 9JS.

Computers for Absolute Beginners:

Tuesdays 27th February – 27th March 2018 10.00am – midday

This course will give you the basic skills to use a mouse and a keyboard. You will learn how to access programmes, as well as saving and printing your work from the computer, and completing simple internet searches.

Computers for Beginners

Tuesdays 27th February – 27th March 2018 12.30pm – 2.30pm

This course is for beginners who have a very basic knowledge of using a computer and are ready to build skills in word processing, using the internet, sending emails, as well as saving and printing files.

Computers for Improvers Tuesdays 27th February – 27th March 2018 3.00pm – 5.00pm

Hone your basic computing skills by discovering more about the power of word processing, the internet and email communication whilst developing additional skills for employment.

The cost of each course is £45.00. Courses are FREE to those who meet the concession criteria. For more information on eligibility please call Rubery Library 01905 822722 or contact the adult learning team using adultlearning@worcestershire.gov.uk

Fairfield Dining Group

Social gathering of residents and friends of Fairfield & Stoneybridge on the third Monday of each month; get to know your neighbours over a lunchtime meal.

The next lunch time gathering of the Fairfield Dining Group will take place on Monday 19th March at 12.30pm – Venue to be confirmed. Past venues include Nailers Arms (Dodford), Lord Mortons Tea Rooms (Cutnall Green), The French Hen (Clent), The Vine (Clent), Robin Hood Inn (Drayton) and The Gate (Bournheath).

For further information or to confirm attendance telephone Linda 01527 834935 or Pat 01527 832360

New Bench for Bus Shelter

In response to a request from residents, the Parish Council have installed a bench in the bus shelter near the Swan Inn, which will be very beneficial for our older bus users.



Keep up to date with FVCA community & Neighbourhood Watch news:

Register your email to receive e-circulars to email box – send your email address to fvcommunityassociation@outlook.com

Follow Social Media:

Twitter @Fairfield_Info

Facebook facebook.com/fairfieldinformation

Visit <u>www.fairfieldvilllage.co.uk</u>

FVCA You Decide

The current Officers of the Association are: Conrad Palmer, Robert Garvin, Carol Brogan, Carol Edwards, Simon Baldwin, Mary Gibbs & Julie Baldwin.

At the AGM on Saturday 3rd March you decide who will help steer YOUR Association of the next 12 months.

Meetings are informal and involve all residents. The Officers, in partnership with residents, shape the way forward and ensure that Chairperson & Treasurer are held to account.



The Wind in the Willows: A Folk Opera

A brand-new musical adaptation of Kenneth Grahame's well-loved classic by Chris Green. Green Matthews (with special guests Vicki Swan and Jonny Dyer) use music and song to bring this timeless tale to sparkling life.

Join Ratty, Mole, Badger and of course the irrepressible Mr Toad as they embark on various adventures – on the river, on the road and in the dark and dangerous Wild Wood. Using traditional English folk melodies set to new lyrics, the four musicians paint a vivid picture of Grahame's world – from the humble comfort of Mole End to the grandeur of Toad Hall.



"The Wind in the Willows" is the perfect soundtrack to summer – vivacious, sparkling and full of life.

Coming to Fairfield Village Hall - Saturday 14th April, 6.30pm

Tickets on sale from Fairfield Post Office. Adults £9.50 Under 16's £7.50.

Target Audience: Adults/Older Children (11+ yrs)

Home Fire Safety Check

Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service (H&WFRS) is committed to reducing the number of fires in the home, and to support this, offers free Home Fire Safety Checks to residents across the two counties.

What is a Home Fire Safety Check?

In brief, it's a visit to your home by a member of H&WFRS's Community Safety Team, who will offer a range of fire safety advice to keep you and your family safe. Members of the team will also install smoke alarms where needed, and will encourage you to work out an escape plan specific to your home and circumstances. This can be as simple as heading down the stairs, knowing where your keys are, unlocking the door and leaving the property, but can make a huge difference if a fire breaks out in your home, particularly at night.

Who can have a home Fire Safety Check?

Home Fire Safety Checks are offered free of charge and are targeted at the more vulnerable groups in the community. This would include the elderly, people living alone and those with reduced mobility or other issues.

Many referrals for Home Fire Safety Checks are made through other agencies, but Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service would urge anyone who thinks an elderly family member, friend or neighbour might benefit from a visit to get in touch and request one on their behalf.

How can I arrange a Home Fire Safety Check?

Contact the Community Safety Team the 0800 032 1155 for advice.

Great Opportunity to Support Friendly Village Hall

Fairfield Village Hall seeks a Facilities Manager, approx. 3.5hrs p/wk paying up to £2500 p.a.

Ideal for someone seeking to top up their income/pension.

For further information email secretary.fvh@outlook.com



An opportunity exists for suitable person(s) to deliver Facilities Management services at Fairfield Village Hall, on a self-employed/service contract basis.

This is an important role in ensuring that the Village Hall runs smoothly, standards are maintained and the Village Hall continues to be a pleasant environment for all users.

The duties are varied and the role requires that the person can be flexible with regard to hours of work.

The value of the contract is up to £2500 per annum, depending on skills and agreed service delivery. For further information visit http://www.fairfieldvillage.co.uk/village-hall-facilities-management-contract-.html



VOLUNTEERS required @ Catshill Library

We are seeking volunteers to help support the day-to-day running of Catshill Library.

Do you have a regular morning or afternoon free to dedicate to your local community?

Do you enjoy talking to people, using computers, shelving and tidying library stock and think you could encourage the next generation to discover a love of reading?

For more information come and join us at

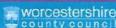
Catshill Library for a cup of tea and a chat on

Friday 26th January 2018

between 9.00am and 11.00am.

Catshill Library, The Community Room, Catshill Middle School, Meadow Road,
Catshill, Bromsgrove, B61 0JW

Find out more online: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/tibraries



Neighbourhood Watch News

Billy Burglar Likes Your House and Neighbourhood

Most house break-ins are opportunistic, so don't give thieves an opportunity.



Burglars choose houses that:

- have little or no obvious security
- appear unoccupied
- have easy, unobserved access to the side and rear
- provide them with the chance to gain entry without being seen or heard

So it is possible to dramatically reduce burglaries by taking simple security measures to deter burglars and remove some of the opportunities that present themselves as easy targets.

- Set a timer switch to turn lights on when it gets dark unlit houses are a give away that no one is at home
- Save energy and money with low-energy light bulbs
- Lock doors, patios and downstairs windows even when you are in.
 Make sure you double check them again before you go to bed
- If you have a burglar alarm, make sure you set it when you go out and also when you go to bed
- Look your garden gates and side entrances. Don't leave tools lying around in the garden which could be used to break into your home
- Don't leave car keys, ID cards or valuables near windows, doors or letterboxes, where burglars can reach through to steal them
- Invest in external lighting

People are also urged to property mark valuables and make the details viewable to the police by registering them on Immobilise: www.immobilise.com. Belongings can be registered for free and it improves the chance of getting them back if they are lost or stolen.

Finally

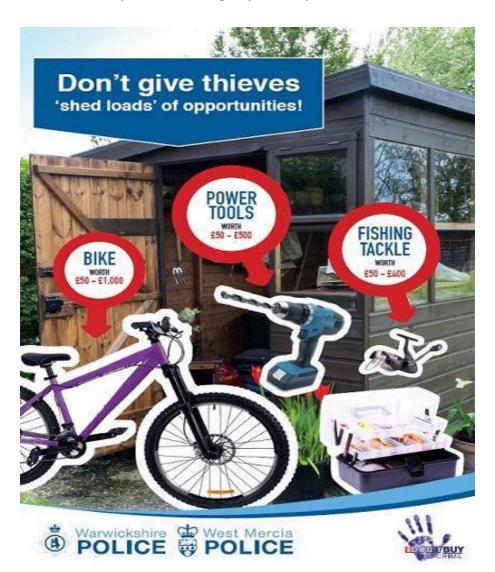
Be vigilant.... Report anything suspicious.....help prevent a crime taking place.....Telephone 101

Shed security crime prevention advice

Tips to consider

- You are probably disciplined about locking your doors and windows when you leave your home, but what about your shed or garage?
- Research shows that thieves often take tools such as ladders and spades, from a garage or shed, to help them break into a house, ensure yours are always locked away.
- Try to site your shed within view of the house and ensure there is adequate lighting. Consider installing an alarm.
- Visibly mark all removable items with your postcode and house number. Register property at www.immobilise.com or www.bikeregister.com
- Ensure the shed is in a good state of repair. Fit a good quality padlock.
- Ensure the hasp is bolted through the shed and into a steel plate.
 Secure up-and-over garage doors with padlocks through the inside runners or fit a padlock (with hasp and staple) to either side of the door.
- Replace ordinary screws on outbuilding doors with non-return screws or coach bolts.
- Glue, smeared over the heads of screws, may stop the thief from unscrewing them.
- Make a note of make/model/serial number of tools and bicycles, take photographs and secure in a safe place.
- High value items such as bicycles and lawn mowers should be shackled together, ideally to the fabric of the building or to a metal post cemented into the ground.
- Consider having lockable steel boxes fitted to the floor to store your tools.
- Obscure the window of your shed/garage to prevent thieves seeing what you have inside.

- Use signage to let offenders know you have security marked your property and you are a member of a Watch Scheme.
- In an emergency please call 999, otherwise please call 101 (the national police non-emergency number).



Nottingham Knockers - REMINDER

People claiming to be licenced pedlars have been visiting properties in our community, trying to sell their wares, such as tea towels, calendars and oven gloves. More often than not their pedlars' licence is not genuine.

These individuals, who are called 'Nottingham Knockers', are operating across the country are an organised travelling band of known criminals who have numerous offences and convictions between them mostly for burglary, theft, violence and sexual offences. They are targeting the homes of the elderly and the vulnerable across West Mercia, Warwickshire and neighbouring counties selling inferior household products such as cloths and dusters. Aggressive selling techniques are often deployed and callers to the Police report being threatened or verbally abused when they refuse to buy products and ask the caller to leave. This leaves the resident feeling intimated, scared and distressed in their own home. Calls in relation to Nottingham Knockers in an area is usually followed by reports of burglary dwellings. Intelligence is requested in relation to persons engaged in door to door selling.

Any member of the public selling door to door needs a pedlars licence. These licences or certificates are issued by the Chief Constable of the pedlars home county, are valid for a 12 month period and allow the pedlars to operate anywhere in the country. If the caller on your doorstep does not produce a pedlars certificate then they should not be selling goods and are probably up to no good!

Some pedlars have produced an A4 laminated card with their picture on it and will tell you that the law requiring them to have a Chief Constable issued pedlars certificate has been repealed and they no longer need a licence/ certificate. THIS IS NOT TRUE.

The documents they produce may have Connexions or Probation Department on them and again, these are not the required document that they should be using.

Always answer your door on a chain should the person calling be unknown to you. If a Nottingham Knocker calls at your property:

- Shut the door;
- Do not buy anything;
- Telephone the police on 101.

Door to door scam alert!

If you are or know of a person who may be vulnerable to doorstep crime ask Fairfield Village Community Association about the Nominated Neighbour Scheme operated by North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership.

Nominated Neighbour scheme

The Nominated Neighbour scheme is designed to let a trusted neighbour, relative or friend help an elderly or vulnerable person to deal with unexpected or unrecognised callers at their door. This will help protect them from bogus callers. (Anybody who attempts to enter a home by tricking or confusing the householder).

Many people look out for their neighbours and help older and more vulnerable people as necessary. For some, putting this on a more 'formal' footing is comforting, knowing that they can call on a trusted person if they are troubled or confused by someone calling at their door, for instance. In these situations, the Nominated Neighbour Scheme may be useful in setting up a loose agreement that a trusted neighbour is happy to help in such situations.



For your Nominated Neighbour cards contact Fairfield Village Community Association.

Weekly Activities in Fairfield

Sunday:	Wednesday:
	Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 12noon
Monday:	Welcome Club, Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm (not Jan)
Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am –	4piii (liot Jaii)
3pm Kicks Dance School, Village Hall, 3.30pm	Thursday:
	Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 3pm
Line Dancing, Village Hall, 7.30pm	Zumba, Village Hall, 7pm – 8pm
<u>Tuesday</u> :	<u>Friday</u> :
Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am –	Pre-school, Village Hall, 9am – 3pm
3pm Dancing, Village Hall, 7.30pm	Street dancing, Village Hall, 3.30pm
	Taekwondo, Village Hall, 6pm/7pm/8pm

Floral Fairfield 2018

July will once again be Floral Fairfield. Gardens, Baskets and Tubs that can be seen and enjoyed by people passing by will be judged. If you live in Fairfield & Wildmoor – get your Green Fingers working.

Diary

March

3rd: Fairfield Village Community Association, Village Hall, 10.00am

10th: Community Litter Pick, meet outside Village Hall, 10.30am

10th: Liz Hart - Mummy Monster, Village Hall, 6.30pm

14th: Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

28th: Bingo, Village Hall, 7.30pm

April

7th: Fairfield Village Community Association, Village Hall, 10.00am

8th: National Fuchsia Society Road Show, Village Hall

11th: Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

14th: Community Litter Pick, meet outside Village Hall, 10.30am

14th: Green Matthews - Wind in the Willows, Village Hall, 6.30pm

25th: Bingo, Village Hall, 7.30pm

May

2nd: Village Hall AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm

5th: Fairfield Village Community Association, Village Hall, 10.00am

9th: Women's Institute, Village Hall, 7.30pm

12th: Community Litter Pick, meet outside Village Hall, 10.30am

19th: Party - Wedding of Prince Harry to Megan Markle, Village Hall

23rd: Bingo, Village Hall, 7.30pm

31st: National Vegetable Society, Village Hall, 7pm for 8pm start