



STOP PRESS: **The Spring Magazine**

will be on your door mat or in the village shop next week
Full of everything that is happening now and in the next few months

**Are you concerned about
Housing developments
In Hurst?**

Building developments
(including Tape Lane)
Planning Appeals
(incl. Valley Nurseries)

Call-for-Sites

**43 sites for development out of 250 sites
identified in the whole of the Wokingham Borough
are in Hurst!!**

**Come and find out
What's going on in Hurst**

Friday, 12th May at 7.30pm

St Nicholas School Hall

There will be time following the presentation for informal discussions over a glass of wine

*This will be preceded by a short HVS Annual General Meeting
Covering a review of the year's events
and our plans and projects for 2017/8*

Full details in the Spring Magazine

Green 'n' Tidy CHARITY PLANT SALE

WEDNESDAY 17TH MAY 2017 - 10am - 2pm
WOKINGHAM TOWN CENTRE MARKET PLACE

**Come and see us for a great variety of high quality
ornamental and vegetable plants and shrubs!**

**All proceeds go to the *Green 'n' Tidy* project,
helping us to maintain gardens for elderly
and disabled residents of Wokingham Borough.**

Green 'n' Tidy is the gardening project operated by
The Wokingham Volunteer Centre
Charitable incorporated organisation no. 1161498



New legal powers to help prevent flooding

Wokingham Borough Council now has new legal powers to help prevent flooding across the borough, following its successful application to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) to make land drainage byelaws.



The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 allows local authorities to make land drainage byelaws to help regulate changes to flows in watercourses, manage obstructions and vegetation, and repair damage to river banks, among others.

Failure to adhere to these byelaws in the Wokingham Borough is now a criminal offence which can be prosecuted in magistrates' courts. This will help the borough council carry out its duties as a highway authority and also as the lead local flood authority.

"The risk of flooding and the impact of new major developments are matters of concern to very many residents and businesses in our borough," said Josie Wragg, interim director of environment at Wokingham Borough Council.

Wokingham Borough's specific byelaws give the borough council control over land within eight metres either side from the bank of a ditch. This will prevent development, or any features and structures, from being put too close to the ditch. This will allow the council to protect the natural flood plain, create a 'buffer zone' for biodiversity, and stop properties from flooding.

A copy of the confirmed byelaws can be found on the flooding webpage, under 'useful information and websites' section, on the borough council's website: www.wokingham.gov.uk/community-and-safety/emergencies/drainage-and-flooding/

Further information: More from Josie Wragg, interim director of environment Tel: (0118) 974 6002 or e-mail: josie.wragg@wokingham.gov.uk



Theft in School Road, Hurst

This is a message sent via Wokingham Community. This information has been sent on behalf of Thames Valley Police

School Road, Hurst. 17th- 23rd April – at some time over the last few days someone has climbed over the neighbours fence, taken a glass pane out of the shed window and then searched inside and stolen a petrol strimmer.

How Residents can help the police:

- If you see or hear anything suspicious ring the police on 101.
- If you see something happening to someone's house and you think someone may still be there ring 999.

Wokingham Borough Libraries

New Library Opening Hours and Self Service. Our new library opening hours provide an extra 17½ hours of service per week. Visit our website: <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries/find-and-join-a-library> Don't forget you can save time queuing by using our new self-service kiosks. You can use them to return, renew or borrow books and other items. They are available at Twyford, Winnersh and Wokingham.

Bank Holidays - All our Libraries will be closed on Monday May 1 and Monday May 29

Events at Wokingham Library: Visit the website online catalogue from the comfort of your own home to see what's on offer: <http://www.wokingham.gov.uk/libraries>