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Croxley Green  
Parish Council

# The Parish Pump

No. 10 April 1997



## COUNCILLORS

### North Ward

John Hedges 222715  
*Chairman - Council*

Brian Norman 779331

Lesley Rees 248126

Mark Rumsey 239059

Ray Withers 448370

### Croxley Green Ward

Gabriel Gallet 771098

Christine Jefford 771769

Margaret Pomfret 720088  
*Chairman - Environment  
& Amenity*

Robert Ridley 778638

Sheila Wright 772460  
*Vice-Chairman - Council*

A N Other

### South Ward

David Bains 441480

Vivian Rhodie 777124

Mark Saxon 772581  
*Chairman - Planning  
& Development*

A N Other

A N Other

*Clerk to the Council*  
Derek Fineberg 710250

*The Council Offices*  
off Barton Way  
Croxley Green  
Rickmansworth  
Herts. WD3 3SU.

## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Time has a way of catching up on you. It seems only a short time since I was last asked to contribute to an edition of the Parish Pump but on reflection a lot has happened since then. In this edition there is some news of past and future events and also some attempts at humour. At least, the authors hope that you will find them humorous.

There are likely to be bye-elections in the near future though, we understand, that the impending General Election is likely to push these back to the end of May. This is just as well, for Parish politics have little to do with the national scene and should not be confused. This does not mean that they are unimportant, the opposite is true, for they have a big effect on the life of our village. We understand that, even in Parishes which have a party political make-up, this really does not show in making local decisions.

We are currently three members short. The sad illness and death of Madryn Waldron has been especially hard to bear as she was so dedicated to the village which she had adopted as her own. She had a keen Cornish sense of humour and was always ready to be called upon.

Norma Stubbington, who was a very good Chairman of our Planning and Development Committee moved, on her husband's early retirement, to Leominster and we miss her in our meetings.

Cyril Eustice, who was always ready with sound financial advice and took

over from Norma, has been forced to resign due to pressure in his working environment. He will be another hard act to follow.

Nevertheless, the remaining thirteen continue to work hard on your behalf. Our presence at the Environment Day at Watersmeet is a good example of the pleasant tasks that we undertake and brought a lot of interest. But, we can be serious too. None more so than when we are dealing with the Parish Precept.

Our financial deliberations, at the turn of the year, resulted in our setting an identical precept as last year. Any variation in your Council Tax comes from other sources than us. Yet, we have an ambitious programme for the coming year all designed to improve the local environment and to foster community spirit. This is not a party political message but comes from all of us who care about Croxley Green and its people.

Our Rangers work tirelessly to keep our village tidy and a pleasant place to live. Footpaths are worked upon by them and, because of that the Countryside Management Service have also contributed materials and labour to make them safer. In this respect we shall be erecting footpath signs to demarcate all our footpaths in the coming months. We can't let Sarratt do it all.

It can be fun working on the Parish Council but it can also be frustrating. Official wheels tend to roll slowly and impatience is the biggest problem that is raised at our regular meetings. All our meetings are open and we will welcome you to come and listen. There is always a space for you to air your views. We do have some regular visitors and we have become firm friends.

As we near the end of the Council year, I should like to say a big thankyou to all our councillors for the work that they put in. It is all voluntary, unpaid, and can take up a considerable chunk of leisure time and, yet, there are numerous examples of unstinting effort which is given for the good of our community. Thank you to the three who are no longer with us and also to those who soldier on and make my life easy.



## MADRYN WALDRON PARISH COUNCILLOR

For sometime the Environment Committee has been missing one of its members. Madryn, from the time when she joined in August 1993 was enthusiastic to offer her assistance in the Committee's activities.

Her contributions to our meetings would bring a touch of humour to our discussions on several agenda items each month.

One of the earliest memories of Madryn was an occasion in Stones Orchard when we were "Ragwort Pulling". This plant was very invasive and taking over several areas of the grassland. We pulled up over 1,000 plants in a few hours during one hot Sunday, with volunteers. Armfuls of Ragwort were pulled up by Madryn and she was quite proud that she found the tallest plant!

The Committee has become involved in many, many projects and activities in the past few years including Clean-Up days, tree planting and the Garden Competition to name but a few.

Whatever the activity Madryn never failed to be "on hand" to "lend a hand".

**Cllr Margaret Pomfret**  
Chairman  
Environment & Amenity Committee

## D&J NURSERIES THE GREEN

(adjacent to Croxley House)  
Telephone: 01923 779799

**WE WOULD LIKE TO  
WELCOME**  
OLD AND NEW CUSTOMERS

**Good range of Conifers, Shrubs  
& seasonal bedding plants**

**Hanging baskets made to order**

**N O W**

**Primroses and Pansies - 5 for £2**

**Open: 6 Days Per Week**

(Closed Wednesday)

## CROXLEY GREEN CIRCULAR WALK LEAFLET

The Environment Committee in conjunction with the Countryside Management Services, Three Rivers District Council and "The Health of the Nation" has produced its first circular walks leaflet for the Parish.

There are three separate loops for this walk or they can be walked as one.

To publicise this event an invitation to Croxley Green residents was extended for Sunday 23 March 1997. This included a walk around one of the "loops" with a "Treasure Trail" of clues to guess environmental features seen on the route. In addition Easter Eggs were given to those who completed the forms with correct answers to the quiz.

We would like to extend our appreciation to the Public Houses in Croxley Green who agreed to give all participants (over 18 years old) a voucher for a discounted meal, for taking part in this event.

This walks leaflet is available **FREE OF CHARGE** and can be obtained from the Parish Office and the Library.

**Cllr Margaret Pomfret**

## PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP

The Environment Committee has now completed its survey of the 18 Parish urban/rural footpaths with a detailed plan of each footpath sign showing the related designation and footpath number.

The Council has agreed these signs should be ordered. They will gradually be put into their positions by the Parish Rangers as their work load allows.

In some instances the poles/water/cement etc will physically have to be walked great distances to install the signs.

In total some 41 poles and 52 signs are required to bring the Parish in line with the footpath numbers that have been renumbered in conjunction with requirements recommended by the Countryside Commission/Parish Paths Partnership, Hertfordshire County Council and Parishes.

We are fortunate that our grant from the Partnership will offset some of the expenditure for this countryside furniture.

During February the Countryside Management Services have improved a precarious slope on footpath No 7 (leading from the Revels site, The Green) by creating steps to assist with ascending/descending a slippery area in wet conditions.

**Cllr Margaret Pomfret**

## WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

**16-20 JUNE & 23-27 JUNE 1997**



The Pedestrian Association,  
126 Aldersgate Street,  
London EC1A  
Tel: 0171 608 0353

together with Shell Better Britain Campaign are encouraging two Walk to School Weeks, the main event is during

**GREEN TRANSPORT WEEK**  
**16-20 JUNE 1997**

but some schools/parents may choose to take part during

**CHILD SAFETY WEEK**  
**23-27 JUNE 1997**

Points for encouraging this include

- **HEALTHY** Its a way of keeping fit
- **COMPANIONABLE** - You can talk properly without being distracted
- **A CHANCE TO TEACH ROAD SKILLS** - Before children start walking on their own
- **CONSIDERATE** - One car less at the school gates means its safer for other children
- **NON POLLUTING** - By leaving your car at home you help reduce the gases that are putting our world at risk
- **ECONOMICAL** - Add up how much you have saved at the end of the week

**Cllr Margaret Pomfret**



## DOG HYGIENE

There have been many reported incidents in the Parish regarding dog fouling on the urban footpaths. These may include children walking over/into the faeces to pushchair wheels being "clogged up". Another concern is fouling around the children's play areas.

To assist with this problem the Environment Committee has increased the number of bins for disposing of the faeces whilst the owners are exercising their pets.

Special bags for collecting and removing faeces from the pathways are available FREE OF CHARGE from the Parish Office and these may be disposed of in the bins.

### Location of Dog Bins

1	New Road Footpath (opposite Yorke Road)
2	Croxley Hall Woods (end of Harvey Road)
3	Stones Orchard (entrance)
4	Stones Orchard (centre)
5	Barton Way Recreation Ground (play area)
6	Barton Way Recreation Ground (pavilion)
7	Little Green Lane (Durrants Drive & Norwich Way)
8	Rousebarn Lane (nr Links Way Footpath)
9	Rousebarn Lane (Baldwins Lane end)
10	Cassiobridge Recreation Ground (play area)
11	Cassiobridge Recreation Ground (tow path)
12	Sycamore Approach (Watford Road junction)
13	Valley Walk (urban footpath)
14	Mill Lane (tow path)
15	Malvern Way (urban footpath)
16	Owens Way (urban footpath)
17	Baldwins Lane Recreation Ground (near play area)
18	Baldwins Lane Recreation Ground (car park area)
19	Dickinsons Field (nr Council Offices)
20	Dickinsons Field (nr school)

## CLEAN-UP WEEKEND

The Parish Council will be holding the "Annual Parish Clean-Up Weekend" on Saturday 26 April and Sunday 27 April 1997. Posters will be displayed around the Parish giving details of collecting points where litter bags will be available and where full ones can be left.

Last year CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL received the TRDC Shield for making the most effort in the district. This was the second occasion in the four years that the shield has been awarded-  
**Can we do it again!!!**

### CLEAN-UP WEEKEND SATURDAY 26 APRIL & SUNDAY 27 APRIL

This is **YOUR**  
Parish  
365 Days a Year



#### KEEP IT CLEAN AND TIDY

Any items large or small can be removed from those neglected areas to make our Parish a clean environment

**Would your group/school like to be involved during the week prior to this weekend.**

Ring the Parish Office for more details.

**Cllr Margaret Pomfret**



### WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

Croxley Hall Woods has areas that have for several years lacked woodland management that would have been carried out to regenerate the natural regrowth of species such as hazel.

Two volunteer days in January under the guidance of the Countryside Management Services provided an opportunity to focus once again on two areas and to carry out management in our woods.

The Parish Rangers spent several weeks in addition to this clearing areas and coppicing hazel which would in time have spent themselves in excess growth.

**Cllr Margaret Pomfret**

## XMAS BEST DRESSED WINDOW

At Christmas the Parish Council ran a competition for the Best Dressed Window Display for local traders.



The idea was to create XMAS cheer and a prize of £50 was offered. It was won by Roberts Fruits, Baldwins Lane, second was Brower Opticians Watford and third Franks Stationers, Watford Road.

Next Xmas we hope to run the competition again with a £75 first prize, £50 second and £25 third.

We thank all those traders who participated and hope to have a bigger event in 1997.

**Cllr Robert Ridley**

## P&D GARDENING SERVICES

- \*LANDSCAPING\*
- \*HEDGE CUTTING\*
- \*TURFING\*
- \*FENCING\*
- \*PLANTING\*

**For a free quotation**

**01442 232883**

**01923 779799**

**0374 935463**

## ADVERTISE IN THE PARISH PUMP IN 1997

**£10**  
**will buy you a**  
**box this size**

#### Price & Distribution

£2.00 per s.c.cm

Payment with copy

4,700 households in Croxley Green

#### Copy Deadline

1 October 1997 for Christmas Issue  
(minimum 928)

**For details please contact:**

**D Fineberg**

**Clerk to the Council**

**Telephone: 01923 710250**



## TWINNING

*Should the Parish Council consider TWINNING with another in the European Community? Those under consideration at the moment are, Barcelona, Nice, the Eternal City and Geneva.*

*To make sure that the Parish Council arrives at the correct decision, we will send a delegation of eight councillors plus the clerk on an all expenses paid visit for a period of at least two weeks to each proposed TWINNING, and a report of the advantages or disadvantages to be published in further Parish Pumps. Then after a final decision is made, we can stick the TWINNED CITY name on all our Parish Council signs. It would also give you a good holiday location to go to and see Croxley Green Parish Council's name abroad.*

**Cllr Robert Ridley**

## WANT TO BE A PARISH COUNCILLOR

Parish Councillors serve on a four year term, we are currently halfway through that term. Due to unforeseen circumstances some inevitably have to leave, and vacancies arise. These are always advertised in the local press, which isn't always read.

If you feel you have something to offer your community, can spare at least two evenings a month and would like to bring your ideas to the attention of the Parish Council, contact the Parish Office for information about forthcoming vacancies and how to apply to become a Parish Councillor.

**Cllr Robert Ridley**

DAVID AND STAFF  
WOULD LIKE TO THANK  
ALL CUSTOMERS FOR THEIR  
SUPPORT OVER  
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

**UNWINS LTD**  
Wine Merchants  
148 Watford Road  
Croxley Green  
Rickmansworth Herts

**Tel: Rickmansworth 772829**

## RECREATION GROUNDS

If you feel that the recreation areas in Croxley are aimed at the under 10's we are now starting a dialogue with TRDC with a view to establishing a joint venture where both sides would contribute financially. Should we have equipment more suitable for 10-16 year olds? Some suggested ideas are skateboard areas or ramps, activity equipment such as rope slides, an activity wall that has goals painted either side and basketball squares and cricket stumps at either end, so it can be used by at least four groups at once.

Should we resurface our tennis courts so that other games can be played ie Five-a-side football, roller hockey, basketball/netball, so that an area that might rarely be used has the ability to be used regularly, which creates exercise for the many. Areas would have to be designated with TRDC approval and it all costs, but nowhere near as much as apathy.

**Cllr Robert Ridley**

## LOST FOR WORDS

On being requested to write an article for the Parish Pump for the third time, I thought to myself 'what can I write about? I have already written one little item about Thomas the Tank Engine (3 issues ago) which nobody understood, a Joke Letters page (2 issues ago) which 50% of people didn't understand and the remaining 50% thought were serious, and for the last issue I missed the copy deadline by 3 months and still haven't thought of anything. So I thought maybe I'll write about being a Parish Councillor.

Lots of people seem to get the impression that we decided to get elected not because of our interest in the local environment but because Councillors get fat expense accounts, salary, company car and a huge amount of power. A large winged animal going oink oink oink comes to mind. The only reward I expect is the satisfaction of seeing various projects completed before my four year term comes up for renewal.

I started from scratch, a local business in Croxley (we've just passed our first anniversary) whilst still finding the time to attend the three plus meetings per month as

well as taking a leading role on sub-committees involved in the forthcoming Village Appraisal and the new Village Sign design. Despite this not a single member of the public has ever approached me with a direct question about Parish Council business. Well aren't I a lucky one? Many of my colleagues seem to get berated for all sorts of obscure reasons, the most recent is all being held directly responsible for the falling water levels in the Little Green Pond ('What Pond?' I'm sure you're all thinking) during January, which just happened to be the driest January for 200 years. Wouldn't it be nice if someone would remember the good things that happen, like the good work our two Rangers put in, the recent Photographic Competition, the new Bus Shelters (slowly appearing), the help given to the recently re-opened New Road Methodist Hall Playgroup, and many other recent happenings.

Anyway I am an easy figure to spot if you fancy a chat. Does anybody reading this article ever see an youngish (40) grey haired fellow wearing a pair of outrageously long coloured shorts and riding a mountain bike at breakneck speed along the Ebury Way, across Common Moor or along the canal bank with a huge (highly fashionable) spotty dog doing his best to keep up? Or puffing along through Long Valley Woods at embarrassingly slow running pace (you wouldn't believe I've run the London Marathon in 3.05) this time with spotty dog 200 yards ahead? Or the same pair not moving very much at all but helping to boost the profits of two of the area's well known public establishments? Well the one without the spots is me.

So I'll close now before my normal wicked sense of humour takes over and causes me to write an article which only myself and three other Parish Councillors will ever understand. TTFN.

**David Bains - Chairman:**  
*The Standard Tandoori Restaurant*  
*end of Frankland Road Residents*  
*Association.*

P.S. At a recent meeting our esteemed chairman was overheard saying 'I don't have enough time to get fully involved in the production of 'The Resident' magazine, but on the other hand it's me who produces all the Pumps.



## CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE

NEVER EARLY - SOMETIMES LATE

TO WATFORD TOWN CENTRE - EVERY FRIDAY\*

### 1st Journey

Winton Drive/ Approach	9.30am
Shaftesbury Court	9.32am
Malvern Way / Barton Way	9.34am
Fuller Way / Barton Way	9.36am
Hanover House	9.37am
Sherborne Way / Baptist Church	9.40am
<b>Return from Watford</b>	<b>12 Noon</b>

### 2nd Journey

Sycamore Approach	10.00am
Valley Walk (Green)	10.01am
Hazelwood Rd/Beechcroft Ave	10.03am
Frankland Rd/Harvey Rd.	10.05am
Chalmers Court	10.08am
All Saints Lane Outside Church	10.10am
<b>Return from Watford</b>	<b>12.30pm</b>

### 3rd Journey

Junction Links Way & Warwick Way	10.30am
Junction Links Way & Dover Way	10.31am
Junction Links Way & Little Green Lane	10.32am
Junction Little Green Lane & Durrants Drive	10.33am
Junction Durrants Drive & Dover Way	10.34am
Kenilworth Drive / Baldwins Lane (Footpath)	10.36am
Manor Way	10.38am
Grove Court	10.40am
New Road Methodist Church	10.43am
New Road / Barton Way (Library)	10.44am
<b>Return from Watford</b>	<b>1.00pm</b>

### YOU MAY HAIL AND RIDE.

1. It is the intention of the Parish Council that the bus does not leave the departure points before the stated times. Traffic problems may cause the service to be a little late on occasions.
  2. Passengers may return by any Community Bus but should note that there may not always be a spare seat on the preferred bus. (CHECK with DRIVER).
  3. Future alterations to the timetable will be notified in advance.
- \* When a Bank Holiday falls on a Friday (eg Good Friday) the service will operate on the Thursday of that week or such other agreed day. Verbal notice will be given at least one week in advance.

### FARE 70p RETURN

For the exclusive use of Senior Citizens and  
persons in Sheltered Accommodation.  
You may be required to show proof of eligibility.

The Parish Bus has now been running for several years and is well supported. Though bus passes are not accepted, the return fare is less than concessionary fares and the bus goes to your door. Shopping is thus made easier for our senior citizens. Many friends are made on this service, not least between the volunteer conductors and the passengers.

**MAKE A WILL  
PROTECT YOUR FAMILY  
In the comfort of your own home  
daytime or evening.**

Couples: £70 inc VAT for simple Wills.  
Singles: £50 inc VAT

**Legal Systems Three Counties**  
Tel: 01923 442182 day or evening.

## PROPERTY MARKING

**ON SATURDAY 12th APRIL**

A property marking session will be held by Hertfordshire Police in conjunction with Croxley Green Neighbourhood Watch.

The Crime Prevention Caravan will be situated outside the Red Cross Centre in Barton Way from 10.00 am until 2.00 pm.

Facilities will be available to stamp, photograph, vibro-etch or to use ultra-violet pens on your items of value.

It cannot be stressed too strongly that the only way to return stolen items to their rightful owners, or to obtain a conviction of persons suspected of stealing them, is by positive identification.

We therefore hope that you will use this opportunity to gain some security for your personal property.

**Croxley Green Co-ordinators.**

### NOTICE BOARDS

Some time ago Three Rivers District Council planned to replace their Notice Boards throughout the district. They were seeking sponsors or partnership in carrying out this task and the Parish Council felt it right to participate. We agreed and then awaited the coming of the boards upon which we would have some rights.

In the event the exercise dragged on and on and they have only been erected early this year and we have contributed half the cost. We are therefore entitled to claim some form of priority in using them and our notices will appear from time to time.

In the main they are well situated and, being smaller, will need to be kept up-to-date which sadly the old ones were not. We hope that this will help in conveying information to the electors who, of course, paid for them and deserve them.

We think that street furniture, provided that it is well maintained, is an asset in our community and we shall continue to try to improve it.



**CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL  
BEST KEPT GARDEN COMPETITION 1997  
ENTRY FORM**

**HOUSEHOLD SECTION.**

1. I wish to enter my front garden in this year's competition.
2. I wish to enter my back garden (less than 60' x 30' ) in this year's competition.
3. I wish to enter my back garden (more than 60' x 30' ) in this year's competition.
4. I wish to enter my garden in the Most Improved Competition for judging next year.\*\*\*

Name (Block letters please) Mr/Mrs/Miss .....

Address: .....

Telephone No: ..... Signed: ..... Date: .....

**BEST FLORAL DISPLAY FRONTING PUBLIC HIGHWAY**

**PUBLIC HOUSE SECTION**

Name and Address of Public House: .....

Name of Licensee: ..... Telephone No: .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

**SHOPS AND OTHER COMMERCIAL PREMISES SECTION**

Name and Address of Premises: .....

Nature of Business: .....

Name of person submitting entry: ..... Telephone No: .....

Position in Business (eg Proprietor, Manager etc.): .....

Signature: ..... Date: .....

**Entry forms to be returned no later than Friday 27th June 1996 to:**

Derek Fineberg, Clerk to the Council,  
Croxley Green Parish Council, Parish Office,  
off Barton Way, Croxley Green,  
RICKMANSWORTH, Herts WD3 3SU.

This will be the fifth year for the Garden Competition. Five years of beautiful gardens!

Wouldn't you like to take part this time? Go on - you know it's worth a try. Big gardens, small gardens, even a small back yard are all eligible and you don't know what you can do unless you try!

***He who dares - wins as Del Boy would say.***

Three things are required of you:-

1. A front garden or a small/large back garden.
2. Complete the entry form above and send/hand in to the Parish Office by the closing date.
3. Be prepared to allow a small group of judges to look at, and photograph, your entry at your convenience, in early July.

Following the judging, there will be an awards evening in September, when all the entrants are invited to join the winners and runners up, who will each receive a permanent trophy. There are awards for the winners and also Very Highly Commended, Highly Commended and Commended awards, so you have more than one chance to shine. It is always a good opportunity for the gardeners to get together to swap/share ideas and pass on those important tips.

**ADDITIONAL PRIZES ARE  
SPONSORED BY:-  
D & J NURSERIES  
at the top of the Green.**

The winners of each category will receive this additional prize.

***Why not give it a go?  
You know it makes sense!***

**SLIMMERS CLUBS UK**

Your local class is held at  
St Bede's Church Hall  
185 Baldwins Lane  
Croxley Green  
on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.

or contact:-  
Karen on 01923 441627  
for more local classes.

**BUS SHELTERS**

Observant passers-by and regular bus travellers will have noticed that several new bus shelters have appeared around the village. These, whilst uncompromisingly modern, are tastefully coloured green and have some form of seating for waiting passengers. They are erected by courtesy of Hertfordshire County Council and provided by Three Rivers District Council and the Parish Council.

We have been anxious to carry out this exercise for the last year. We had planned to provide one replacement and one new shelter - outside the Red House and at the bottom of Watford Road before the winter set in.

We then discovered that Three Rivers District Council also planned to replace the shelter in Repton Way and provide another at the bottom of Baldwins Lane, so it was sensible to co-ordinate our efforts. This exercise showed that we had to obtain approval from Hertfordshire County Council, not to mention a proportion of their cost.

Then came the hitch - the specifications were changed - to allow the shelters, at some future time, to take indicators which would give information of the expected time of arrival of the bus.

This caused some delay and so the shelters were not finally erected until February but they are there now and TRDC are awaiting another before long.

We have plans to erect two more in the coming year but, again, we need to co-ordinate so no dates can be given yet.

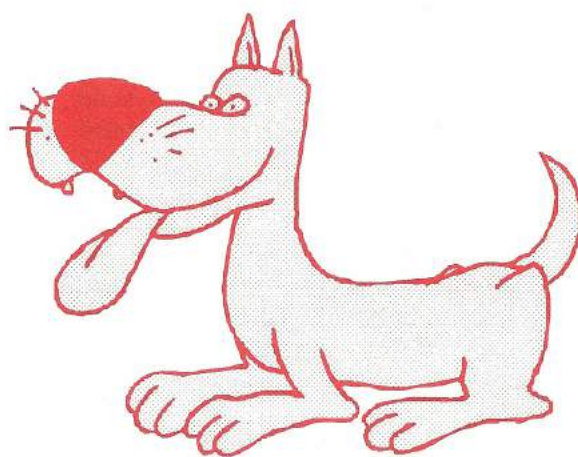
***Let it be soon!!!***



DON'T GET YOUR DOG A BAD NAME!



PLEASE  
USE POOP SCOOPS  
AND THE DOG BINS



THEN YOUR DOG WILL BE LIKED  
BY EVERYBODY!

FREE POOP SCOOPS AVAILABLE FROM THE PARISH OFFICE OFF BARTON WAY

ISSUED BY CROXLEY GREEN PARISH COUNCIL