

*Dear Neighbour, a lot has happened since our last newsletter at the start of the summer and we hope to update you with this edition and also encourage you to tell us your views and get involved.*

### ***Rain did not stop play at this year's Fete on the Green***

Well, after three fine Fetes with wall to wall sunshine, it had to happen. We were delighted to welcome over 150 people to what was our best offering so far. The dark skies and showers did not deter the kids from queuing up for the climbing and rope wall, bouncy castle, ju-jitsu displays and the ever popular coconut shy.

Very many thanks to all those who made donations on the day. We are also grateful to our sponsors, especially Knightstone Housing Association and to Barratt Homes for their continued support.



This new resident said it all:

*"We have just moved in. It's been really great to be able to meet new neighbours today. My son loved the climbing wall and was the proud winner of lots of coconuts ! I had a go at Morris Dancing. Loads of fun."*

### **Plenty to report from our First Open Meeting in June**

We had a very lively and informative debate at the meeting. The main topics discussed were:

- Safety and speeding on the estate
- Road signs and street lighting
- Litter and dog waste
- Parking

We have been following up these issues with the estate's two developers, Crest Nicolson and Barratt Homes, management agents Premier Estates, the Parish and County Councils and the local Police.

We would like to update you all about our progress and more importantly to hear your views. Our next meeting will also cover the confusion over Service Charges and the role of Premier Estates, the managing agents, who will be responsible for the estate as soon as it is adopted by the District Council.

**Next meeting date:**

**Thursday 11 January 2018 at 7.30 pm at the United Reform Church Hall, behind the High Street.  
*We'd love to see you there.***

### Houndwood scores double win in gardening competition

The Houndwood Community Group and our very own Green Warrior, Jacqui Pirrie, were recognised by Knightstone Housing for our work on community gardens in September.

The Group received first place in the "Blooming Marvellous Competition" across Knightstone's estates in the South West. Jacqui was also awarded first prize as "Green Warrior" for her work in organising and coordinating a band of committed residents. She has encouraged the establishment and planting of communal gardens, replacement and maintenance of the planters on the entrance to estate and organised regular litter picks and general upkeep activities across the whole estate.



*If you would like to look after the planter near to your house, or to get involved with maintaining the landscaped areas on the estate, let us know.*

*The Group has a good selection of gardening tools you can use, so it's easy to get gardening!  
Call Jacqui Pirrie: 07713 142452/01458 898026*

### SpeedWatch: How fast is too fast?

Many of you have told us you think that traffic is too fast on the estate. Many are also not sure of the speed limit is currently and what it should be. The limit is 20 mph throughout so we ran a number of Speedwatch sessions, with support from the local Police, to find out how fast the traffic really is.

We checked the speed of 1,250 cars. Of these, 52% were doing less than 14 mph, 90% less than 20 mph. The remaining 10% were doing the speed limit or just above. Two were significantly above 20 mph and were reported to the Police. The Speedwatch team have been surprised by how large cars or vans appear to be going faster than actually are when scanned.

### Polite Parking

We all know that there is insufficient parking on the estate for residents' cars, especially when we have visitors.

We need to be tolerant of each other here, since most of us or our visitors are guilty of not parking in an approved slot, or using visitors slots even though we are residents.

When parking on paths, principally on Couture Grove, please leave a 1-metre clear space on the path to enable wheelchairs, pushchairs and mobility scooters to pass and not force them onto the road. Thank you.

### Become a member and add your voice to ours...

At the Open Meeting and the Fete we were inviting residents to sign up as members of the Community Group. It is absolutely free and without any obligation on you to be any more involved than you want to be. It is just that the more members we have, the stronger our voice is when contacting the developers, councils and the managing agents. If you would like to become a member, please contact us.

***Please also check out our website for information on all the items covered in the Newsletter***

[www.houndwoodcommunity.org](http://www.houndwoodcommunity.org)

**website: [www.houndwoodcommunity.org](http://www.houndwoodcommunity.org) | email: [committee@houndwoodcommunity.org](mailto:committee@houndwoodcommunity.org)**