

# Parish Council NEWS



## Your chance to be involved in creating a local plan

The CR3 Forum is a shared initiative between Caterham, Chaldon and Whyteleafe Parish or Village Councils. Other local groups including ABC (A Better Caterham) and The Caterham Business Partnership are founder members. Local businesses and residents throughout the area are invited to participate.



The Localism Act created many new rights for individuals and local groups, including the right to create a local "Neighbourhood Plan". The CR3 Forum group successfully bid for Government funding through Tandridge District Council to carry out a local plan and as a result the group is now inviting local participation.

Over the next 12 months several teams will look at different aspects of our local area and if you would like to be involved, please do visit the website <http://www.cr3forum.org.uk> to register for newsletters and contribute on particular areas of interest.

There is quite a spread of topics from basic questions like Housing and Planning related issues, through Jobs & Employment, Leisure & Community, Public Services - Police/Health/Education, Transport, Rural & Urban Design plus Heritage and lastly Utilities.

The local plan must comply with certain rules, such as National planning policy and guidance, and generally fit within Tandridge's Core Strategy. However, we will have the power to interpret and supplement these to fit with the needs of our neighbourhood. It is a great opportunity to influence the policies in our local area and we hope many of you will participate actively.

At the end of the exercise, the group's plan will be assessed by a Government Inspector, to ensure it meets basic guidelines and then it will be your chance to vote in a referendum. We hope to get this done by June 2014, and if a simple majority of voters approve the plan, it will become a key document, guiding local development. It will have what is termed Statutory Power, which means it will need to be taken into account in many local decisions.

So, if you would like to join in and register for newsletters, or to be involved in one of the seven main topics, please let us know at <http://www.cr3forum.org.uk>



*Councillor Sarah Burningham, Chairman of the Parish Council*

Welcome to this edition of the Parish Council Newsletter which I hope you find of interest.

I was very honoured to be elected as chairman for this coming year following on from Mary Mountain who led us so well over the last twelve months. Mary, Jean Pidgeon and Pat Groves stood down in May and we welcome Sue Gauge, Mike O'Reilly and Jeremy Webster.

Our council has always benefited by having members with a wide variety of talents and interests. They have always worked well together and alongside our Clerk Helen Broughton and Warden Steve Butler.

The contents of this newsletter illustrate the wide range of activities we are involved in, enhancing the appearance of the Hill and working with others to make this a more enjoyable place to live and work.

Please contact us on our website [www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk](http://www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk), find us on facebook, or come to our meetings.

**"Thank you to the Parish Council for sponsorship of the fireworks at the lighting of the Beacon on Westway Common. It was a brilliant evening enjoyed by the estimated 3,000 people who turned up and especially someone called Julie who was proposed to underneath the beacon after the event!"**

**£830 was raised with half going to the Queen Elizabeth Foundation and the rest to Festival Committee.**



Could you help distribute this newsletter to homes in Caterham on the Hill?  
If you can help please call on 01883 708310.



# Update on Planning Issues, by Councillor Hilary Turner

There has recently been a great deal of attention paid to planning issues nationally, with a number of Government statements and policy proposals. However, the proposed changes will take some time to come to fruition, as most are subject to consultation or new legislation. The Government's present ideas could therefore themselves be amended before they take effect.

Over the past few months, the rate of major new planning applications has slowed.

Since the Clifton Arms pub closed, there have been a variety of proposals for redevelopment of the site. The most recent is for a two- and three-storey building of 14 flats. The Parish Council submitted comments and our objections included: poor location of the access to the site; inadequate car parking provision; poor sight-lines at the Chaldon Road / Coulsdon Road junction; and failure to provide a footway 'inset' at the bus stop location in Chaldon Road. The Council also considered that provision of flats failed to meet the main local housing need, which is for family houses. However, Tandridge District Council officers have now approved the application without bringing it to the TDC Planning Committee.

There are two buildings on Kenley Airfield which are included on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, and both are both within Portley Ward. A proposal to convert and extend the former Officers' Mess to provide 42 flats was rejected by the Council. The applicants have appealed against this decision, and an Inspector will hold the Appeal at the TDC offices on 12th December. Meanwhile, a plan to provide an independent faith school by rebuilding and extending the semi-derelict workshop behind the former HQ and NAAFI building was withdrawn on the morning of the TDC Committee meeting in June. The Parish Council would like to see both the Listed Buildings restored and brought back into use.

Your Parish Councillors will continue to act in the interests of Caterham on the Hill by opposing unsuitable schemes and by putting forward constructive proposals for improvements and community benefits.



Councillor surgeries are held on the last Saturday of the month at Caterham on the Hill Library (with the exception of August and December) from 10am to 12 noon.

If you have an issue you would like to discuss with your local representative please come along.

## Beating the Bounds

On a beautiful spring day a group of twenty or so local residents joined two of our Parish Councillors, David Gosling and Sue Gauge, on a walk around the parish boundary. Former Parish Councillor Jean Pigeon who had devised the route a few years ago joined us as well to make sure we didn't get lost.



The ancient tradition of 'Beating the Bounds' is intended as a way of passing on knowledge of the land to the next generation, with sticks to beat the landmarks along the route. We didn't take many sticks but we did share and learn lots of interesting facts about the local area. Did you know that the 'Green Lane' behind the barracks development was originally the main route to Coulsdon? Or that the golf course was a farm? Or that over three thousand patients were buried in the former St Lawrence's Hospital burial ground between 1916 & 1965?

The walk started at St Mary's Church, passed along Stanstead Road then went off road towards Chaldon. One group detoured slightly to look at the burial ground of the former St Lawrence's hospital, which is technically outside the boundary, and which is gradually being restored by Chaldon Parish Council and the Downlands Trust.

A friendly lunch break was spent in the garden of the Fox pub, where some people said goodbye and some others joined us. Then it was on across Coulsdon Common and around Kenley Airfield. The next stretch took us across Kenley Common, down to Whyteleafe, then a long walk back up to Burntwood Lane. Finally along the footpath off Burntwood Lane past the stables and back to St Mary's churchyard.

The sun came out en route and a great time was had by all.

Winner of the best decorated shop window for the Jubilee was the Knit Club (see below)





## OAKLANDS DEVELOPMENT, by Councillor Jeremy Webster

The Housing Development at the Oaklands Hospital Site off Coulsdon Road was passed by the Planning Committee of Tandridge District Council on 19 April 2012. This development will involve the construction of 161 dwellings, of which 34% (about 54) are affordable housing. Local objections centred on the proposed density of the site, its impact on local traffic flows and the destruction of mature, important trees. As well as specific concerns from people along the Northern Boundary who feared overlooking and overshadowing. These were not sufficient to persuade the TDC planning committee to reject the proposal in favour of a plan that offered fewer houses.

The site will formally pass from the Hospital Trust to the Developer; Berkeley First Ltd on 17th October and development will commence almost immediately. The developers will be concentrating on the area that is closest to Coulsdon Road first and residents will notice as work on the site begins with the demolition of existing buildings and groundwork for the new homes.

Councillor Jeremy Webster was concerned about the destruction of a number of important trees and has collected seeds and saplings from the site to ensure that some of these are preserved for the future, including the prominent and beautiful Corsican Pine on the North East corner of the site.



Residents will also notice that the Clifton Arms Site has been cleared pending development. However, we have also, recently, been informed that the Vines Motorcycle Dealership next door is being relocated to Redhill. This means a further 13 jobs lost to Caterham, although we understand that BMW will be looking for a new site in this area next year. While we do not know about what the site owners intend for this site, residents will be concerned about the amount of development in this area, where there is already occasional traffic congestion.

## SNOW AND GRIT



Following the success of additional grit bins last winter the Parish Council plans to install a further 12 or more bins this winter. The locations have been chosen following feedback and suggestions from residents. Surrey County Council have now given permission to site these bins in suitable locations.

As well as providing full grit bins the Parish Council also will also be employing local contractors to grit roads again. This is in addition to the ones treated by Surrey County Council and includes some of the more minor roads.

The Parish Council is also working with Tandridge District Council to improve gritting in the various shopping areas. We have a pull along spreader and grit stored at two locations on the Hill. If anyone would like to volunteer to help with this we would be pleased to hear from you. Contact the Parish Clerk at [caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com)

### 'Thank you' to Hillcroft School for looking after the Raglan Planters.

These planters (outside the shops in the Raglan Precinct) were full of weeds and an overgrown shrub. The Parish Council needed to get permission from the owners of the Raglan Precinct before any work could be carried out. Once this was given the Parish Council was able to organise the removal of the large tree and clear the area so that the children and volunteers from Hillcroft School could re-plant them. I'm sure you'll agree they look much better.



The Parish Warden continues to report local issues such as potholes, overgrown hedges, litter, graffiti etc.

If you have any issues you would like reported please email

[caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com).



# Switching on the Cedar Tree Lights

Saturday 24th November at 5.45 pm (lights on at 6pm)

This year Caterham on the Hill Parish Council is again holding the popular Christmas festivities under the Cedar Tree.

Please come along to join in the carols, watch Father Christmas switch on the lights, and join us in refreshments of mince pies, mulled wine and soft drinks.

As always, the Parish Council wishes to thank Buxton Homes for allowing the use of their car park for this event and also for supplying the power for the Cedar Tree lights throughout the festive period.

For more information please contact the Parish Clerk at [caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com)

We hope to see you under the Cedar Tree on Saturday 24th November.

Please bring a torch.



**Council meetings** now take place on certain Wednesdays at Caterham on the Hill Library at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to give their comments.

For dates go to [caterhamhillpc.org.uk](http://caterhamhillpc.org.uk) or contact the Parish Clerk on 01883 708310.

The Police Neighbourhood Panel is the communities' opportunity to meet with their local safer neighbourhood team officers and discuss matters of interest or concern.

The next meeting is on 27th of November at 7.30pm at the Linden Homes Building, Guards Avenue, The Village, Caterham Hill.

## Find us on Facebook

The Parish Council now has a Facebook page where you can find details and photos of current activities. If you are a Facebook user please 'like' the Caterham on the Hill Parish Council page to get updates on parish council matters. It's a great way to give us feedback and suggestions too. Have a look at the photos of the allotments which won prizes in our recent competition. We'd love you to share any photos of Caterham on the Hill too.



## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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