

Parish Council NEWS



INVITATION TO THE CEDAR TREE LIGHTS SWITCH-ON CEREMONY

Saturday 29th November at 6pm

This years Cedar Tree Lights Ceremony will take place on Saturday 29th November at 6pm in the car park at Buxton Homes, under the Cedar Tree.

All residents are invited to sing along to carols led by the Girl Guides and to watch the Cedar Tree lights being switched on.

Cllr David Gosling, Chairman of the Parish Council, said "Last years ceremony was a huge success with over 100 people attending the event. The Girl Guides singing was fantastic and we all went away feeling very 'Christmassy'. We would like to make the event even bigger and better this year so please come along."

The Parish Council would like to thank Buxton Homes for allowing the use of their car park for this event and supplying the power for the Cedar Tree lights throughout the winter.

We hope to see you under the Cedar Tree on the 29th. Please bring a torch.

The Parish Council has been working on a 4 year plan.

A summary of the draft plan is available inside this newsletter.

Residents comments and suggestions are very welcome.



Welcome to the latest edition of our Parish Council News. I hope that you find it interesting and useful. In May, a new Parish Council was elected. We have an excellent mix of new councillors bringing us new ideas and experience, and re-elected councillors who provide continuity with past work. All current Councillors contact details can be found on the back page.

Can I also thank those councillors who retired in May. Parish Councillors are volunteers who spare their free time to try to make their community a better place. They receive no salary nor allowance. So thanks to John Orrick, Karle Simpson, Ron Cash, Daphne Ferguson and Bob Riddle who spared their free time to serve on the Parish Council up to May.

The Council has four committees which work on particular issues in depth. These Committees then feed into a Full Council which usually meets every six weeks. Each Full Council starts with an open forum in which residents can ask questions and make comments to the Council. Please try to come along. Details on when meetings are held can be found inside this newsletter, on our website, on the Parish notice boards at Hillcroft Corner and Audley School, and also in the Hill Library.

David Gosling, Chairman of the Parish Council



NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Caterham on the Hill Parish Council has a new website which can be viewed at www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk.

Here you can see all the Council's minutes and agenda, planning applications, details of your local councillors and a residents forum.

Further improvements are underway, including links to other organisations. Your comments and suggestions are very welcome.



Caterham on the Hill Parish Council draft 4 year plan

Caterham on the Hill Parish Council has produced a draft 4 year plan which will enable it to more accurately make budget forecasts, be pro-active in its work and inform the people of Caterham on the Hill of its aims and objectives.

The Parish Council would appreciate your comments and suggestions on this draft plan. A summary is given below. Please contact Mrs Helen Broughton at caterhamhillpc@msn.com or write to her at 65 Court Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5RH.

SUMMARY OF CATERHAM ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL'S DRAFT 4 YEAR PLAN

Aims

Caterham on the Hill Parish Council aims to add value to our community by:

- Enhancing our environment through protecting our heritage, promoting safety and security
- Representing our community, advocating for residents and communicating with them
- Supporting our community services, volunteers and youth groups
- Working with others to develop community facilities
- Supporting initiatives for the infirm, disabled and housebound

In support of the above aims the Parish Council recommends the following programme of work

Short-term

- Employ a Parish Warden to undertake outdoor environmental duties / tree warden
- Achieve Quality Council Status
- Consider a Parish Office
- Improve the Annual Parish Meeting
- Enhance the website and newsletters

- Formalise the grants process
- Invest in security at Queen's Park
- Beat the Bounds
- Develop a Heritage trail
- Work in support of the Sustainable Communities Act

Medium-term

- Develop environmental initiatives, linking with "shabby to smart", including planters, trees, street furniture etc
- Consider developing councillor surgeries
- Develop relationships with young people, voluntary groups and local traders
- Explore the possibility of a Christmas Market
- Further develop transport links
- Support investment in community infrastructure

Long-term

- Develop relationships with schools to promote citizenship and youth engagement
- Influence the relocation of the civic recycling centre
- Continue investment in sustainable transport and infrastructure

PARISH COUNCIL SMALL GRANTS

Although the Parish Council has limited funds, it does give small grants to projects serving people in Caterham on the Hill. So far this year the Parish Council has given grants to Skaterham, Play Safely, The Bourne Society and the Horticultural Society.

PARISH COUNCIL ENCOURAGES YOUTH WORK

Your Parish Cllrs are all keen to support youth work and have recently made two grants to this end. £1000 was donated to the indoor skateboarding and BMX biking complex-Skaterham- to buy new equipment. If you are a young person new to the area you may be interested to see Skaterham which is in the old chapel- entrance from Guards Avenue, the Barracks. The second grant was £500 to local charity PlaySafely to fund thermoplastic play patterns such as hop scotch and other games on existing paths and tarmac spaces in the Queens Park play area which celebrated its 20th anniversary this summer.

WILLIAM GARLAND SOPER

William Garland Soper died exactly 100 years ago and the Parish Council were pleased to be able to help with a donation towards the restoration of his grave.

Garland Soper made an enormous contribution to the development of Caterham in the 19th Century. He was elected Chairman of the School Board for 12 years and was instrumental in the arrival of the School for the sons of congregational Ministers in Caterham, which was later to become Caterham School. In 1895 he was co-opted chairman of Caterham Parish Council. He was chairman of the Cottage Hospital Management Committee and founded the Caterham Rifle Club. He donated the pavilion in Queen's Park in 1900. The Soper Hall was built in his memory in 1911.

To apply for a Parish Council small grant please write with details to the The Clerk, Caterham on the Hill Parish Council, 65 Court Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5RH or email caterhamhillpc@msn.com.



Cllrs Gosling and Pidgeon present a cheque to the CR3 Youth Project (Skaterham)

Hill in Lights Competition 2008



Caterham on the Hill Parish Council is once again holding a 'Hill in Lights' Competition as a way of thanking the many Parish residents and traders who cheer us all up with Christmas illuminations.

The Parish Council judge will be touring Caterham on the Hill at the beginning of December to choose the winners.

Kenley Airfield Friends Group KAFG

This group has been set up to represent the public interest and work with the various interested authorities that own, manage and protect the Airfield and its special features. Anyone who cares about the maintenance of the Airfield as an Open Space can join. Membership for one year costs £5 for a single person and £10 for a family. For further information please contact Lesley West, 5 Hillhurst Gardens, Caterham CR3 5HX Tel:0208 660 3149 E-Mail Lwest@oxted.surrey.sch.uk

Dog Care on our Open Spaces. Advice from the City of London.

Wardens on Kenley Airfield, Farthing Down and Coulsdon Common are out and about talking to visitors about dogs. They will be reminding everyone that they expect owners to control their dogs and to clear up after their dogs. Control means being able to see your dog at all times and that it returns when called. Otherwise your dog should be on a lead. Remember that your dog is part of your family.

Council meetings take place on Wednesdays at Hillcroft School at 7.30pm. The dates of the meetings for the beginning of 2009 are:

12th November 2008

January 28th 2009

March 11th 2009

April 22nd 2009

Members of the public are welcome to attend. There is a public forum near the beginning of the meeting when the public can give their comments.

'News on ABC'

by Chairman Chris Windridge

While it may seem ABC is quiet here in Caterham, there is in fact quite a lot going on in the background and action has begun on key projects - a festival for next year, business to business exhibition on Nov 5th, detailed work on shopping areas, and transition to a qualifying organisation for many grants.

Your Councillors on the Hill are actively involved with this Project and will keep your interests in mind. We will continue to keep you informed.

Bus Service Update



The Parish Council is continuing to consult residents on extending the hours that bus route 541 might run. Thank you to those of you who have already completed bus survey forms. Many of

you have told us that they would welcome additional buses between Caterham Valley and Whyteleafe; and Caterham Hill, in the evening.

As this would be a major investment for the Hill Parish Council, we want to be sure that any service we fund, would be well used. We therefore plan to continue to survey residents to gauge the level of potential demand over this Autumn.

We are also working closely with Surrey County Council (as the transport authority), with Metrobus (as the 541 service provider) and with other stakeholders on this issue. We have already suggested some slight modifications to the existing bus timetables to improve connections with local train services.

You will shortly be able to download the survey form from the Parish Council website. In the meantime, if you have any views, please e-mail: caterhamhillpc@msn.com or write to: The Clerk, Caterham Hill Parish Council, 65 Court Road, Caterham, CR3 5RH.

HILL IN BLOOM 2008

The annual Hill in Bloom competition is run by Caterham on the Hill Parish Council to encourage residents to make the Hill more attractive.

Hilary Turner, Chairman of the Parish Amenities Committee, says: "We were once again impressed with the high standard of entries. I would like to thank everyone who entered and also the competition judge Len Stebbings."

The winners were:

Commercial class: **First prize:** Audley School, Whyteleafe Road; **Second Prize:** Caterham ex Serviceman's Club, Town End; **Third prize:** Hillcroft School.

Residential garden class: **First prize:** Mrs Teresa Hanley, Oak Road; **Second prize:** Mrs Angela Flint, Oak Road; **Third prize:** Mrs Rita Paul, Eldon Road

Containers: **First prize:** Mrs Angela Flint; **Second prize:** Mrs Teresa Hanley; **Third prize:** Mrs Rita Paul

Judge's Prize: Mrs Marian Billups, Town End



Audley School, winners of the commercial class.

REPORT IT....

Graffiti

Criminal damage in the form of graffiti is a menace. Please report incidents of damage to PCSO Vicky Seymour on 0845 125 2222. If you see anyone committing graffiti, please dial 999 and give as much description of the suspect as possible, what they are using and, if they make off, a direction of travel.

It is an offence for any person to sell spray paints to anyone under the age of sixteen. Any person found with spray paints or paint pens without a lawful excuse may be charged. Parents bear this in mind if you keep spray paints at your property and consider who has access to them.

Tandridge District Council aims to remove non-offensive graffiti from Tandridge District Council property within 28 working days of any sighting or report, and 24 hours for offensive graffiti sightings or reports.

Visit the TDC website at www.tandridge.gov.uk/environment/Roadsandstreets/graffiti.htm. This site gives information on who to report graffiti to if it is not on TDC property. Alternatively you can call freephone 0800 068 2070. If the graffiti is on private property you will usually need to try and remove it yourself. Both Tandridge District Council and the Parish Council loan out graffiti kits free of charge. Call 01883 732988 (TDC) or 01883 382151 (Parish Council).

Pot holes and overgrown hedges



It is the responsibility of Surrey County Council to maintain the roads and pathways. To report problems with roads, paths or hedges contact Surrey County Council on 08456 009 009 or on line at www.surreycc.gov.uk.

Faulty street lights

Surrey County Council state that they will attend and evaluate the fault within three working days and in most cases effect an immediate repair. Faults can be reported on-line at www.surreycc.gov.uk or by calling 0845 009 009. Most street lighting items are marked with a number, usually found above the base section. Please quote the number if known as it will help speed up the process.

Antisocial behaviour

Antisocial behaviour is behaviour that caused or is likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress to one or more persons ..." (Crime & Disorder Act, 1998).

If you are witnessing antisocial behaviour and are in fear of a persons safety or property then call 999. If the incident has happened or is not urgent call Caterham Police Station on 0845 125 2222. This will enable the police to create an incident number and pass the information on to the local neighbourhood officer.

Police neighbourhood meetings are an opportunity for you to let the police know about problems being experienced in and around Caterham on the Hill.

The next meeting is 8pm on 27th November at the Linden Building at the Barracks.

Following recent incidents of vandalism at the play ground in Queens Park, the Parish Council has agreed to contribute £2,500 toward the siting of a CCTV camera there. Other contributors include Play Safely and Chaldon Parish Council. The CCTV camera would be installed by Tandridge DC, who are also contributing to its cost. The Parish Council has also told Tandridge that it is willing to financially contribute toward low level lighting along the footpath close to the play ground to improve security for walkers. Nearby residents would be consulted on any lighting options proposed.



Winning plot at Westway allotments



Winning plot at the Heath allotments

ALLOTMENT COMPETITION

With more interest being shown in growing your own food for healthy eating, more and more people are becoming involved in allotments. Allotments were considered suitable for a Senior Citizen, now we have a generation of young people with families wanting plots.

This year the weather has been very mixed not allowing plot holders to work when they wanted to; - either too wet or too dry - the gardener is never happy. We have to take it in our stride and get on with it.

I have seen some wonderful vegetables this year grown in raised beds and protected from the pests also flowers which attract the goodies to help contrast with the baddies.

Well done everybody!!

Len Stebbings, the Parish Council allotment and Hill in Bloom judge.

The winners were:

Westway: First Prize: J Perera; Second Prize: V Claramunt; Third Prize: J Skilton

The Heath: First Prize: K Logue; Second prize: R Horton; Third Prize: J Wadsworth

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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