

# Parish Council NEWS



## Winter 2011 and preparing for 2012

During the latest period of snow, residents working together made good use of the grit bins provided by the Parish Council.

These bins have been refilled when necessary with grit purchased by the Parish Council as part of its winter preparations. The recently installed bin at the schools campus in Whyteleafe Road proved vital in keeping the service roads and pavements safe for many families.

As well as providing full grit bins we employed local contractors to grit roads in addition to the ones they had done on behalf of Surrey County Council. Many roads were treated as a result of requests from residents.



Sarah Burningham and Mrs Shields (Head Teacher at Audley School).

The Parish Council is working with Tandridge District Council to improve gritting in the various shopping areas and hope that traders will help with this exercise. We have a pull along spreader and grit stored at two locations on the Hill. Thank you to those who have already volunteered and particularly to Bidwells and our Parish Warden who went out with the gritter during the icy weather.

We have received requests from residents for further grit bins and hope to install some when we have resolved the problem of gaining permission from Surrey to site these in suitable locations. Please contact us with any suggestions you have for how we can build on the work we have done so far.

**"Just to say a big thank-you to the Parish Council and for the salt bin and additional salt. It has meant that we have been able to keep pupils and parents much safer than in previous years. Steve, our caretaker, has done a sterling job gritting."**  
**-Audley School**

*Councillor Sarah Burningham, Chairman, Projects Committee*

## Come and "Beat the Bounds"

Caterham on the Hill Parish Council's Circular Walk will take place on Saturday 2nd June at 11.30am. The walk is approximately 6 miles long and where possible follows the boundary of Caterham on the Hill Parish.

"Beating the Bounds" is an ancient, and once widespread custom. A group procession walked around the 'Bounds' of a common, carrying sticks or 'wands' to hit landmarks along the way. This was believed to pass knowledge of the land onto the next generation.

The walk will start at St Mary's church car park at 11.30am. There will be a break for refreshments after 3 miles, near Coulsdon Common, where people who can only do 3 miles can leave or join.



Please bring a packed lunch.

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

**WE HAVE WON THE BID to get money to develop OUR Neighbourhood Plan!**

Linking with Caterham Valley, Chaldon and Whyteleafe we will have a stronger voice to influence the developers in the future. We aim to be proactive not reactive (see the planning and Oaklands articles) BUT to do this we need your help and your ideas. If you want to have a say in how OUR Neighbourhood develops in the future please contact us on the link below.

<http://www.caterhamareforum.org.uk>

**Councillor Mary Mountain**

I have been very honoured to be elected by you to serve as a councillor for the last four years - this last year as Chair. Following the elections you will have a different Parish Council with at least three new members. I hope there will be a combination of continuity and new blood - experience and enthusiasm.

It has been a busy year but here are some memorable "highs".

Thank you to:- Blends in the High Street who produced all the delicious mince pies for the Cedar Tree celebration - free. Also to Nick Dance, our local farmer, who re-planted our three vandalised trees - free.

Nick, his son and his colleague, Roger Colebrook, were the farmers who worked night and day to keep Caterham moving during the snow.

Another high-light was learning that we had been awarded £20,000 to develop a Neighbourhood Plan. We applied jointly with Caterham Valley, Whyteleafe and Chaldon councils, the Caterham Community Partnership (CCP) and TDC. The four councils have similar problems and we have already set up working parties to start addressing these issues.

Lastly I would like to thank my colleagues and our Clerk who have been not only supportive but good fun to work with. I hope the next four years will be both enjoyable and successful.

*Councillor Mary Mountain, Chairman of the Parish Council*

**Volunteers are wanted to help distribute this newsletter to homes in Caterham on the Hill. If you can help please call on 01883 708310.**

# Your Parish Council...making Caterham on the Hill a more attractive place to live in.



## Diamond Jubilee

To commemorate this wonderful year your Parish Council is considering the following :-

Planting a special Jubilee tree, holding a competition for shopkeepers to decorate their windows, funding a firework display for the Festival, putting flower troughs outside the High Street shops (drought permitting), reinstating the drinking fountain at Town End Recreation ground.

There may be other surprises so keep your eyes open!

If there is something you would dearly like us to do to commemorate the Jubilee please email [caterhamhillpc@msn.com](mailto:caterhamhillpc@msn.com). We are open to suggestions, as long as they are within reason.

*Councillor Jean Hooper*

# Update on Planning Issues

by Councillors Chris Botten and Hilary Turner

In recent years, a third of all new housing developments within Tandridge District have taken place within Caterham on the Hill. This spate of activity has put our physical and social infrastructure - such as highways, drainage, schools and surgeries - under increasing strain.

Major planning applications continue to come forward. The Parish Council provides robust responses to these, both by commenting directly to Tandridge Council and by working with local groups such as AGRO (see Oaklands article below). The local community can be successful in getting the worst schemes rejected and in mitigating the impact of others, despite the lack of balance in national town planning policies which often seem to be weighted in favour of applicants for major developments.

Where necessary, one of our Councillors speaks on behalf of

the Parish at Tandridge Council's Planning Committee. We joined with local residents to oppose an application in Portley Ward which was then refused permission by TDC, despite a recommendation for approval by Tandridge Council officers. At the subsequent appeal by the developer, the inspector confirmed the refusal and referred favourably to the views which the Parish Council had put forward.



Chris Botten chairs the Planning Committee

Other recent applications on which we have responded include one by an independent faith school for reconstruction and extension of the former Kenley Airfield workshops on Green Belt land at Victor Beamish Avenue, and of course the Oaklands site.

Your Parish Council 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.



Jean Hooper, Hilary Turner and John Orrick at a recent Councillors Surgery

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.

## What's Planned for the Oaklands Site?

by Councillors David Gosling and John Orrick

The former NHS Oaklands land is the last of the major sites along Coulsdon Road which could be developed. New housing developments have replaced most of the Victorian buildings which formed Caterham Barracks and St Lawrence's Hospital.

The Parish Council has been working to ensure that the plans for the Oaklands site, at the corner of Coulsdon Road and Chaldon Road, take account of the views of the local community. We have held several meetings, both with the developers and as part of the wider Action Group to Resist Overdevelopment in Caterham Hill and Chaldon (AGRO).

We have submitted our extensive concerns to Tandridge District Council and we put those concerns directly to the TDC Planning Committee in January. The Planning Committee deferred its decision and visited the site in February, where again we were represented. The developers have now amended their plans, and the revised proposal is likely to be considered by TDC on 19th April.

The Parish Council is grateful that the developers have continued to engage with the local community. However, we remain concerned about the planned density and layout of the site, the impact on many adjoining households, inadequate parking provision, the loss of mature and attractive trees on this sylvan land, inadequate access from Coulsdon Road for pedestrians and vehicles, and the failure to provide adequately for the consequences of building another large estate (e.g. extra secondary school places). We will again address the Planning Committee on 19th April, and we hope that TDC takes account of our views in reaching its decision on this very important re-development proposal.



# Thank you



**Thank you once again to Buxton Homes for supplying the power for the Cedar Tree Lights and for allowing use of their car park during the Cedar Tree Lights Ceremony. Also a big thank you to Blends Catering who supplied the mince pies, The Girl Guides, East Surrey Choral Society and St Francis School who sang so beautifully and to the Scouts and Mr Parr who supplied equipment and helped out on the night. A real team effort!**

THANK YOU also to the following traders who made a contribution to the Christmas Lights this year.

Vivace Pianos, The Ballet Box, Milan Services Ltd, Cedars Osteopathic and Natural Health Clinic and Doves Decorating Supplies.

Over £300 was raised at the Cedar Tree Lights Ceremony for Help the Heroes.

## No increase in this year's Parish Council Precept!

As Chairman of the Finance Committee, I am very pleased to announce that Caterham on the Hill Parish Council has decided on no change to this year's Precept! Although our Precept is not a very large amount in your overall Council Tax bill, any saving helps in these stringent times, so our Precept will only be £14.20 a year for an average (Band D) house.

Due to careful planning and forethought we are still able to provide our usual services to you and this year will be having extra items to commemorate the Jubilee and, on a more local issue, hopefully more Grit bins before Winter. We will still be running our Small Grants scheme, so don't forget to ask us if you have a worthy cause. This Parish belongs to us all so let's keep working together to improve it!

*Councillor Jean Hooper*

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** **Noon to 4pm**  
Portcullis Field, Victor Beamish Avenue, CR3 5FX  
**KENLEY AIRFIELD  
HERITAGE DAY**  
Guided WWII Heritage and Nature Walks  
Family Games      BBQ      Ice Cream  
Getting Close to the Gliders  
Plenty of Parking      Bar      Teas  
 Kenley Airfield Friends Group [www.kafg.org.uk](http://www.kafg.org.uk)

**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.

**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 meetings take place in the Linden Homes building, Guards Avenue, The Barracks. The next meetings are on**

**Tuesday 29th May 2012 - 1930 - 2030 hrs**

**Tuesday 31st July 2012 - 1930 - 2030 hrs**

**Tuesday 25th September 2012 - 1930 - 2030 hrs**

## YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

This list below gives Parish Councillors at the time of publication. Parish Council elections take place on Thursday 3rd May. Details of your Parish Councillors will be available after this time at [www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk](http://www.caterhamhillpc.org.uk)

### PORTLEY WARD

#### Sarah Burningham

148 Foxon Lane CR3 5SF  
01883 346247

[sarahjburningham@btinternet.com](mailto:sarahjburningham@btinternet.com)

#### John Orrick

47 Chaldon Road CR3 5PG  
01883 348098

[johnorrick@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnorrick@hotmail.co.uk)

#### Hilary Turner

6 Harestone Hill CR3 6SX  
01883 343359

[hilaryturner@chalky-bank.co.uk](mailto:hilaryturner@chalky-bank.co.uk)

### QUEENS PARK WARD

#### Pat Groves

28 Park Avenue, Caterham CR3 6AH  
01883 343762

[patriciagroves7@gmail.com](mailto:patriciagroves7@gmail.com)

#### Jean Hooper

23 Oak Road CR3 5TT  
01883 341744

[cybertrophic@gmail.com](mailto:cybertrophic@gmail.com)

#### Mary Mountain

38 Manor Avenue, Caterham CR3 6AN  
01883 344744

[mary.e.mountain@ntlworld.com](mailto:mary.e.mountain@ntlworld.com)

### WESTWAY WARD

#### Chris Botten

13 Avenue Road, Caterham CR3 5TR

01883 341625 [chris\\_botten@hotmail.com](mailto:chris_botten@hotmail.com)

#### David Gosling

11 Drake Ave, Yorke Gate CR3 5BS

01883 346049

[cldr.david.gosling@tandridgedc.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.david.gosling@tandridgedc.gov.uk)

#### Jean Pidgeon

57 Chaldon Road, Caterham CR3 5PG

01883 346873