

TATTENHAM & PRESTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



WINTER 2021

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A Single Council for Surrey? - Now it's a "County Deal"

In Summer 2020 we reported on the Government's plans to get rid of two-tier authorities in the shire counties, such as Surrey. The government said it would like single authorities, with a mayor sitting on top. Encouraged by this, the County Council put in a pre-emptive bid for Surrey to be a single unitary authority, with it taking all the powers to itself, abolishing the 11 borough councils in Surrey, including Reigate & Banstead.

The boroughs were not consulted and an almighty row between them and the county ensued. Downing Street then slammed on the brakes – an argument between Conservative councillors at both levels was not good PR for the Government. At the time Tim Oliver, the Surrey Leader, vowed to continue to develop plans and insisted that the current two-tier structure must be reviewed.

Boris's "Levelling Up" Agenda

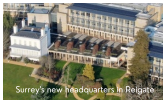
In the Prime Minister's "Levelling Up" speech this August he said he wanted to give more powers to local government and invited county leaders to come forward with suggestions. Tim Oliver was quick off the mark, registering an early interest to be a pilot for a "county deal." Although the local government structure would change, he insisted his was not a plan for a new unitary authority. Cllr Oliver said: "The unitary concept is not dead but it's not something the County Council is going to take forward. It's not what we are asking for."

Lack of Consultation

Resident Association County Councillors have complained that the letter was sent without their knowledge. They said: "This is not consensus politics."

You get consensus by trusting people from the start. The fundamental point about democracy is that it is open and transparent."

The Resident Associations have urged Cllr Oliver to "involve the opposition, the boroughs, and the residents of Surrey in this process, every step of the way". The County Council must learn its lesson from the failed unitary authority bid that cost around £250,000 and not repeat the same mistakes.



Surrey's new headquarters in Reigate

So What is a County Deal?

Cllr Oliver has said "we don't know yet" what a county deal means for Surrey – "It's an iterative process." And "hopefully boroughs too" would be involved. He would like to see the council's regular partners, such as police, health and charities, getting together on a regular basis so their agendas align. He also wants further devolved powers from central government in areas such as skills, transport and infrastructure.

He has also said he wants to reduce complexity – can local government be streamlined and use economies of scale? This we do agree with – councils have got to try and save money.

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Chair's Report

Dear Residents....

Our seasons have certainly changed, and a warning of warmer and wetter weather has occurred. Consequently we are now experiencing sudden heavy downpours of rain which has caused flooding for a number of households in our area. A meeting was held on 28th October at St Marks Church with councillors and local residents who had been affected attended. If for any reason you could not attend this meeting and your home or business has been affected, Councillor Nick Harrison would like to hear from you please contact him on 01737 215405 or email nicholas.harrison@surreycc.gov.uk

Poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day have again been installed by the Committee and this has now become a feature on our calendar. We hope to keep extending the number of roads we can cover in the ward each year.

The ongoing work on planters at Tattenham Corner have been completed; the crates have been stripped back and winter flowers and spring bulbs put in, hopefully to give a good display of colour early next year.

Roads

There was a push for a sustained programme to resurface poor roads and pavements and 40 projects have been delivered in the last 5 years. Attention should now move to the worst of the smaller residential roads. If you want to report an issue such as potholes this can be done directly on to the Surrey County Council website. For a link visit the "Our Streets" page on our website.



Marbles Way Pond



Planning

Building work seems to carry on at a pace and a keen eye is kept on applications where there may be ones that are detrimental to the character of the area or will cause problems such as increased flooding.

Please contact our councillors for advice on planning issues. We also have a good link on our website on how to apply for planning or put in an objection, www.tandpr.org.uk and click on Planning-Key Guidelines.

Preston

The shopping area on Marbles Way has recently been given a facelift. Some remedial work and painting has been carried out and it looks good.

The footpath from Fleetwood Close to Preston Lane has recently been renewed.

The pond on Marbles Way now has a path around it apart from a small gap which will be completed. The fishing platform still has to be done.

Communication

It has always been our intention to improve our use of technology and social media and this year, thanks to a number of our technically minded committee, we have made good progress on this.

Our website www.tandpr.org.uk is informative and easy to navigate and is kept updated on a weekly and when required a daily basis. We recently launched an E Newsletter - T&PR eNEWS. It is free and when you subscribe to it, via our website, a copy will be emailed out to you at the beginning of each month.

Our paper newsletter will still be delivered three times a year as we want to reach out to as many residents as we can and as an Association, we want to improve our area and retain and improve local amenities for the benefit of all residents.

*Best wishes for Christmas
Kathryn Chattelle*

Chair

Tattenham & Preston Residents Association

Tattenham Library back in business

The library is open again following its Covid closure. It is now open 10.00 am to 1.00 pm Monday to Saturday and until 5.00 pm on Fridays and 4.00 pm on Saturdays.

Rhyme Time is also back in business for the toddlers. It's a free session from 11.00 to 11.30 am on Mondays. All welcome and no booking necessary.

Surrey has also upgraded the library's computers with free access to members. As long as you live or work in Surrey you can join for free. Just pop in for more information.



Do you live in London Square Tadworth Gardens?



If you live in De Burgh Gardens, Hubert House, Aylesham Road, Dover Road, Beatrice Square, Isabella Walk, Brentwood House or Devizes Road, visit our website to find out the origin of your address:

www.tandpr.org.uk/Tadworth-Gardens

Please support the St. Mark's Food Club



The Food Club at St. Mark's Church is open from 1.30 pm until 3.00 pm every Friday. Read our article about how it operates on our website:

www.tandp.org.uk/st-marks-food-club/

Donations of tinned and dried goods are needed to supplement the fresh food available. Please leave them in the shopping trolley at Tattenham Library.

The Mystery Solved

The phantom knitter (or should we say crocheter) has been found!

The mystery of the Upland Way post box reported in last month's T&PR eNEWS has been solved. Its new hat was crocheted by Angie Warmbold. She lives in Essex but her grandchildren, Bethany and Emma, live in Upland Way and she thought it would be nice to have something to look at on their way to school or visiting the library. The photo is of Bethany next to the post box.



New Double Yellow Lines

Have you noticed that a few new sets of double yellow lines have appeared in our area? These are the result of Surrey County Council's review of parking arrangements in our borough.

One of our recent changes has been the introduction of double yellow lines at the junction of Merland Rise and Preston Lane in order to improve sightlines for drivers, access, and road safety.

Local People - Maria Hewson, our Community Development Worker

Maria explains her role and the projects she's working on

Hi,

I'm Maria, I'm employed by the Borough of Reigate & Banstead and am your local Community Development Worker (CDW).

Community Development requires a long-term commitment. By investing in Community Development the council is making a commitment to the community. Its goal is to empower residents and create stronger and more connected communities. It's all about empowerment, enablement, social justice, and action.

I'm one of five CDWs in the Borough and am based in the Tattenham & Preston Ward. My brief is to get to know the community I work in, help it to have a voice that is heard and understand its needs, problems, and barriers. I then act as a catalyst to develop initiatives to meet such needs and overcome problems to improve the wellbeing of residents.

It may sound like an impossible brief. But, in essence, I wander around speaking to residents to hear their views on living locally, I attend lots of different groups to listen to people and get to know them better and talk to other agencies in the area. And then with the help and support of these agencies, I am pleased to say a number of initiatives have been developed that have benefited our community and helped to improve the lives of local residents.

These include:

Monday night project - for young people aged 10+ to play football in the 3G pitches in Preston Park as well as ball and racquet sports in the leisure centre. (Monday 4pm-6pm FREE).

Wednesday night Football project - for young people aged 10+ in the 3G pitches in Preston Park, with a level 2 football coach.

Intergenerational Community Arts Group - meets first Saturday of the month at the Phoenix Youth Centre, 2-4pm. Arts and crafts and games. Chance to get to know each other over a cuppa.

St Marks Food Club - serving Preston and Tattenhams. A club which helps to reduce food from going to waste, offering good quality food to supplement our store cupboard. Every Friday 1.30pm-3pm at St Marks Church, KT18 5RD.

Summer schemes. These are now run by MYTI youth Club, at the Phoenix Youth Centre as well as activities run at the local primary school for young people in years reception to six. This year HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) funding was received so meals could be provided for those in receipt of free school meals.





PATHH (Preston and Tattenhams Helping Hands) Good Neighbour Scheme - we are in the process of setting up a local good neighbour scheme to offer local "vulnerable" residents transport to medical appointments; DWP appointments and for social activities. This is due to launch in spring 2022.



Preston Partner Network – a quarterly meeting of local organisations to raise awareness of services, share best practice, prevent duplication of work, identify gaps in service provision and look to meeting them. This has led to joint initiatives such as a local parent and baby group for parents of babies born in the pandemic; support with funding for an outdoor area at the Family Centre to see families safely during pandemic.

Preston Community Event - an annual event that brings the community together in a fun and positive way. This year more than 500 residents attended and over 25 partner organisations took part to raise awareness of their services. Another great opportunity to engage with the community.

Joint partnership work to provide an **outdoor gym** for local residents.

I am now also working with health partners to find out more about the services offered and how we can collaborate with residents to improve provision and understand changes.

I also help organise other community events such as Christmas fairs, MacMillan coffee mornings, and afternoon tea for the elderly. I am also currently working on setting up a community fridge, a community garden and improved skateboard facilities.

I would like to hear from any resident who has ideas about projects that could help to further improve a wonderful community. You can reach me by email (maria.hewson@reigate-banstead.gov.uk or telephone (07854 161376).

Take care

Maria



Welcome to Shawley Community Primary School



Firstly I would like to start by introducing myself. My name is Emma Dallimore and I am the acting Headteacher at Shawley Primary in Shawley Way. Back in May I was seconded to the school from the LEO Academy Trust, where I held the post of associate Principal of Inclusion, Wellbeing and Safeguarding. Both myself and Mrs Day (the Executive Head) are providing leadership to Shawley at this current time and have really enjoyed our journey so far.

Shawley Community Primary is exactly what it says, a community school that aims to ensure all the children at the school have the chance to THRIVE. Our aim is to both prepare children for the next phase of their education but also teach them valuable life skills to help them prepare for adulthood.

Togetherness – we are stronger when working together and value our partnerships with parents and carers and other schools

Happiness – we value the happiness of our children as well as everyone connected with the school and believe that a safe environment and healthy minds and bodies are important to happiness

Resilience – we encourage children to persevere and demonstrate self-belief and encourage them to try their hardest

Inspiration – we want our curriculum to inspire and excite children to become lifelong learners

Values – our shared values are at the heart of school life

Excellence – drives our choices, effort, and vision – we want to provide the very best for our children, have high expectations of them, and expect them to have high expectations of themselves - each child will be supported and challenged to achieve their personal best during their time with us - our school will look and feel excellent to visitors, staff, parents, and pupils.



Since joining in May, we have worked closely with the school staff and governors to identify exactly what is needed to help the children to be the best they can be. We have introduced many enhancements to the school including straight year group teaching of reading, writing and maths, access to forest school for all children, the introduction of our own sports coach and also the 1:1 device project which has provided all our children with access to a chromebook to enhance their learning. Just recently the school had a big makeover on the inside of the building with every classroom / hallway being painted and carpeted. We are very proud of the school and just how hard everyone is working to ensure our children really do get the best we have to offer them.

If you are looking for a local school for your children to attend and you would like them to feel part of a strong inclusive community, who put the children at the heart of what they do, then why not make an appointment to come and take a look around. We would love to meet you.

Please contact the school office on: info@shawley.surrey.sch.uk.

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Hon. Secretary	Jill Bray	27 Shawley Way KT18 5PB	01737 357055
Committee	Bob Harper	68 Upland Way KT18 5ST	01737 211315
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