

TATTENHAM & PRESTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MAGAZINE



WINTER 2023

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The Preston Park Community event was held in September - see Page 10

Committee Members

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	Bob Harper	68 Upland Way KT18 5ST	01737 211315
	Nick Harrison	105 Tattenham Crescent KT18 5NY	01737 215405
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	Tim Snuggs	31 Great Tattenhams KT18 5RF	07956 405063

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Bob Harper	68 Upland Way KT18 5ST	bhms.harper@gmail.com	01737 211315

County & Borough Councillor

Nick Harrison 105 Tattenham Crescent KT18 5NY nicholas.harrison@surreycc.gov.uk 01737 215405

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Chair's Report - Winter 2023

Dear Residents....

Grass Cutting

Many people this summer have commented, negatively, about the grass cutting. Surrey County Council took over responsibility of this from Reigate and Banstead Council and it has been a complete mess. Verges and roundabouts have not being cut making driving dangerous as sight lines for vehicles have not been maintained. Grass was hacked, not cut, and I am sure in the next few months this will probably cause an issue with drains as they become blocked with large amounts of vegetation. Now into winter the grass is becoming dormant so it will not be so much of an issue. According to the Surrey County Council website they are planning four cuts a year and although it appears they have listened to their residents concerns, we will see if their actions speak louder than words. We understand that at least an extra fifth cut will be added to the schedule. Better still, put the contract back to the borough council.



Solar Lights around the Mound

Cllr. Bob Harper initiated discussion about lighting round the Mound with Reigate and Banstead Council, as there was no lighting for people walking from or to Epsom Lane North. The council has agreed to putting in solar lights along the wall.

Pavement Improvements

Through the Horizons Project work will be started on pavement improvements, including the pavement on Great Tattenhams from Merland Rise up to the traffic lights, which is scheduled for 2024.

Tattenham Corner Planters

Thank you to those who have volunteered to help with the planters at Tattenham Corner. Some work has been done to give winter colour on them, but we need to do this work fairly quickly due to the sudden change in the weather. I will be in touch with those kind people who offered their assistance for the work that needs to be done early next year.

Men's Pitstop

The Pitstop brings men together through activities and conversation to build friendship, connection and a sense of belonging. The idea of men functioning best when they have the solidarity of their own group.

It is a drop-in emotional wellbeing support group for men. Don't carry the weight of what's keeping you down. Come and have a chat about it at this confidential group, Pitstop.

Meets every Thursday evening 6.30-7.30pm at St Marks Church, Great Tattenhams, Tattenham Corner.



Recycling of DIY Material

Finally the the Government announced a few months ago that it proposed a change to the law to require Local Authorities to accept small amounts of construction waste from 'do it yourself' (DIY) activities from householders, free of charge.

The Government indicated that local authorities would need to absorb the cost of accepting small amounts of DIY waste, and it was therefore essential that they maintain controls over what can be brought in to minimise the county council's exposure to increased costs, as this could cost them over £1 million per annum.

Currently at the Epsom recycling centre the weekly free allowance of DIY waste per household is limited to 1 visit per week with either:

Up to 2 x 50 litre bags (50cm x 77cm) of DIY waste, or

1 large item up to 200cm x 75cm in size (cars only; restrictions apply to vans), or

1 sheet of plasterboard 120cm x 140cm (sheets may be presented whole or as 2 halves).

Additional visits with DIY waste over a household's free weekly allowance will incur charges.

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Kathryn Chattelle

Chair Tattenham and Preston Residents Association



Planning Updates

Raven Garage Sites

Raven Housing Trust are proposing to demolish some of their garage blocks built in the 1960's and to replace them with social housing. With the size of cars having grown significantly in the past 50 years, most modern cars would not fit into the garages. Some have been used for classic cars, in other cases residents and small businesses such as gardeners and builders have been using them for storage. Some are empty, and many renters are not local. Raven's mandate is to provide social housing, and this is why they want to redevelop.

The Residents Association hand delivered flyers to residents living near the garage blocks to both alert and share concerns. Three sites have now been approved by the Planning Committee, despite objections voiced by Residents Association councillors.

These sites are:

Downland Gardens

Three new houses were proposed. We opposed these because of the out of character design of the buildings, the lack adequate amenity space for the central property and the overlooking domination of neighbours. The Planning Committee agreed by a majority to the development because of the pressing need for social housing.

Ferriers Way and Hatch Gardens

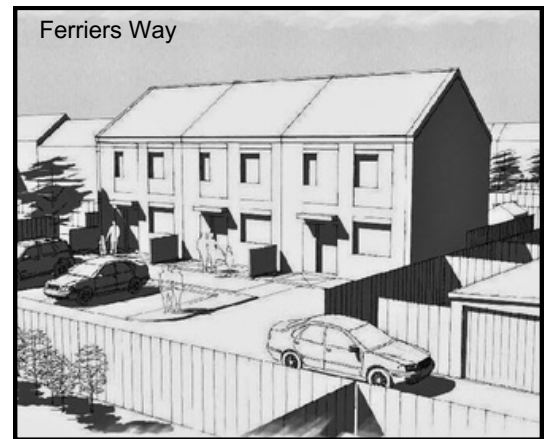
Responding to overdevelopment, amenity space and on-site parking concerns, Raven have reduced the number of intended properties; the Ferriers Way site from four to three houses with seven parking spaces, and Hatch Gardens from three to two houses with five parking spaces.

Whilst our councillors were pleased to see the reduction in the number of properties, they still have concerns about displacement parking onto the very crowded roads around both sites.

Councillor Jill Bray felt that the parking capacity surveys were inaccurate. The area around Ferriers Way, Coxdean and Long Walk takes a lot of through traffic and there is also the impact of the Chavercroft redevelopment.

She eloquently argued for the Planning Committee to commission its own parking study, but the Committee narrowly rejected this. Both applications were approved by a majority vote.

The Residents Association's view is that whilst more social housing is needed in the area, the impact on our roads in terms of on-street parking is a serious concern and has to be fully provided for.



Upland Way and Shawley Crescent

These two applications, which are both for six houses, have yet to come to the Planning Committee. We think both sites are over-developed and looking to see what reductions are proposed. Upland Way shares its access with a public footpath, well used by school children. The Shawley Crescent site has a very long, narrow access road and the area is very over-parked and also has flooding issues.

Downs Cottage Site – Great Tattenhams

The old nursing home near to the shops at Tattenham Corner is now boarded up. Having been a house of multiple occupation (HMO) for quite a few years, nearby residents are agreed that something needs to be done with the site. The most recent application for 8 houses has been refused by the Council, based on the scale and design, closeness to neighbours and the cramped layout, unsympathetic to the area. We await to see if the owners submit an appeal. In the meantime, an older application for 14, mainly one-bedroom, flats awaits a decision from the Council. As always, the question of parking overspill is an issue.



Shawley School – Artificial Grass Pitch

Shawley Academy is looking to improve sports provision at the school with a new artificial pitch. The School also plans to hire the pitch out to all-comers for matches and for training, made possible by LED sports lighting.

Councillors met with the school back in January to express the significant concerns of neighbours for the out of hours use. We reported extensively on this application in our Spring newsletter. We were told that changes would be made, but nine months later, there have been few changes.



The Council's own advisers state that the "hours and the nature of the intended use and the siting of the pitch has significant potential to cause harm to neighbour amenity" and that "there does not appear to be any strong justification for such an intensification."

To recap on some of the key concerns:

Hours of Use: Although the pitch is only aimed for use by 12's and under, Monday to Thursday use is proposed up to 9:00pm, Fridays and Saturdays up to 6:00pm, plus up to 2:00pm Sundays.

Noise and Disruption: Neighbouring properties would be very close to the pitch. A significant concern is large youth football teams using the facility every day of the week for training; we are told that up to 60 youngsters (plus coaches and parents) is not uncommon.

There has been discussion about acoustic barriers to contain noise, but nothing has come forward. Barriers would create visual intrusion and might still be ineffective against whistles, shouting etc. We have asked for controls to limit players to the intended 12's and under. Again no action.

Transport and Parking: The school has prepared a travel plan, but it does not recognise the potential for very large numbers at training sessions, nor that the majority would inevitably arrive by car.

Lighting: The lighting has been modified to limit overspill on immediate neighbours, but the sky glow is likely to appreciably alter the character of the area.

Community Use Management Plan: The school has not said how they would manage the site after hours. We are told that school staff would not be present, and that management would be through "letting" staff, who may well be not on site.

Subscriptions



In our Summer Magazine we asked residents for voluntary contributions. We have a suggested annual subscription of **£3**, or more if you wish, per household to help cover our project expenses (for example the planters at Tattenham Corner) and other costs such as the printing of this magazine. Your contributions will help us considerably.

Where we have a nearby resident acting as collecting agent you should have received an envelope to return to the address shown. Perhaps you still have that envelope ?

Alternatively if you haven't paid this year and would like to help support us just transfer your contribution to **Tattenham & Preston Residents Association** :

Sort Code: 30-93-08 Account Number: 00218075

Please use your house/flat number and postcode as a reference.

Or simply **Paypal** your donation to **tattpra@gmail.com**, giving us your location details as above as a reference, and using payment option Friends & Family since we are a non profit organisation.

No One Left Behind

In the R.A. Summer Magazine we commented on the serious problems for parents of children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND), and how Surrey County Council has been failing to meet the needs of these children. We are pleased that scrutiny has spurred the Children's Service into action.

An extra £15 million will be spent over 3 years to provide more case workers and educational psychologists (EPs), as well as more help to schools. The statutory process is being reviewed as well.

The aim is that by the middle of next year 63% of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) will be delivered on time, and the backlog will be cleared. Although this target is not good enough, it will be quite a stretch forward compared to current performance. Given the national shortage of EPs it is a realistic immediate target.

In the meantime the Council has been reimbursing parents for the cost of private EP advice. All children caught in the backlog will receive help in schools, with 50 schools receiving extra resources.

Cllr. Nick Harrison



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Ukraine Appeal

The White Eagle Appeal is doing sterling work sending donations to Ukraine every week.



At their request I am collecting the following as priorities:

- Non perishable food stuffs and high energy bars.
- Winter clothing particularly hats, gloves, scarves/snoods.
- Medical equipment including bandages/nappies, wheelchairs, crutches, pain relief meds.
- Blankets, bedding & pillows etc.

The list is not exhaustive and I will take anything providing it is clean and usable.

I will happily receive (or collect locally) donations whilst the war continues.

Steve Kupis email: skdci@btinternet.com

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COMMUNITY GRANTS FROM THE COUNTY COUNCIL

The County Council has a number of grants programmes which charities, community groups, churches etc operating in our area might wish to access for the benefit of local residents.



Your Fund Surrey – Large Community Projects

This scheme is for capital projects only, with individual projects from £10,000 upwards, and a few projects have been well over £250,000.

There is a phased application process, with applicants needing to provide financial, commercial and risk information and to demonstrate community support. See the Surrey website, search using “Your Fund Surrey” for more information.

Your Fund Surrey – Small Community Projects

Well, not necessarily all that small, as projects can range from £1,000 to £50,000 and is also only for capital projects. It was set up when it was seen that some of Surrey’s more affluent areas, with well-organised groups were accessing the lion’s share of the Large Community Projects funding. Each of the Council’s electoral divisions has been allocated a pot of £50,000 to be spent in one or more projects.

This must be spent by May 2025, with a much simpler and quicker applications process. Please contact **Nick Harrison** if you have project ideas.

Your Councillor Community Fund

This is for both revenue and capital, with amounts from £250 upwards to £1,500.

There is an application form – again please contact **Nick Harrison**.

nicholas.harrison@surreycc.gov.uk

Lonesome Ponds Upgrade

Over the last two years Preston and Tadworth residents and other users of the Burgh Heath woods will have observed the extensive reworking of the area around the Lonesome Ponds. This work included cleaning out silt and building up an embankment to prevent the flooding of the path during wet winters.

Now it is possible to see the end result of all this work which was organised by the Banstead Commons Conservators. The Chetwode Road pond area is green and the vegetation exploded this past summer. The same can be said for the Long Walk pond surroundings which were just a large expanse of mud and silt immediately after cleaning.

The work has been paid for by Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding which the Conservators successfully applied for with encouragement and assistance from our TPRA councillors and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council.

Banstead Commons Conservators have a new website : bansteadcommons.org.uk



Lonesome Pond Chetwode Road Winter 2021/2022



Summer 2023



Lonesome Pond Long Walk Winter 2021/2022



Summer 2023

T & P R e NEWS

We produce a monthly electronic newsletter **T&PR eNEWS**, which is circulated by email on the first of each month. It is totally free and ensures you keep up to date with what is going on in Tattenham Corner and Preston. We include any planning issues that will affect you, the residents. All you need to do is subscribe via our website. You can do this by scanning the QR code or go to:

<https://tandpr.org.uk/e-newsletter>



Roads Update



Chetwode Road

We still await the full resurfacing of **Chetwode Road** which was committed to by the Council in the current financial year ending in March 2024. Some interim patching was completed in the summer to tackle the worst of the potholes. We are assured this was a temporary repair only, and the scheme – when it comes – will be a full resurfacing project. One of the reasons for the hold up is the need to put a legal order in place which will prevent utility companies digging up the road for the next few years.

Although it was not on the Horizon resurfacing list for this year, **Merland Rise** suffered badly with many, many potholes in the winter. After pressure from the Residents Association, very large sections of the road were resurfaced in the summer.

In **Waterer Gardens** where there were problems with the underlying slabs tipping, the tarmac overlay has been removed and the concrete “regenerated” to restore the grip. Some of the slabs have been replaced and the gaps sealed.



Waterer Gardens

Similarly in **Preston Lane** the spaces between the individual concrete slabs have been filled to prevent water getting into the gaps. In winter the water gets down and freezes, which can lead to cracking. It may look a bit odd, but if successful, the life of the road will be extended; hopefully the brighter lines will fade in time.



Preston Lane

Street Trees: We are lucky to have grass verges planted with trees in many of our streets. This is good for the environment and attractive for the area. But you may have noticed that some trees are dead or dying and there are quite a number of tree stumps where dead trees have been cut down. The County Council has a major programme to remove these stumps over time and to consider replacement trees. You can also report dead or dying trees through the Council’s website.

If you want a new tree planted outside your property, you can request one through the Council’s website (the link is given in our December E-News, or contact Nick Harrison). There is a £25 charge for a site inspection. However, you won’t be asked to pay for the cost of the tree itself by noting on the form “to be funded via RBBC CIL”



Parking Enforcement: The County Council has taken back enforcement of yellow lines from the Borough. Beware - the contractor is up and working and both the Tattenham Corner and Nork Way shopping parades are in the “top 10” spots in the borough for getting a ticket. The new operator also enforces in the evening too! You have been warned.

RBL Poppy Appeal

The Banstead and District Royal British Legion poppy appeal was once again a tremendous success. As well as having a stand in Waitrose and ASDA Burgh Heath where we had collectors covering 360 slots over 15 days we distributed to over 120 other outlets including 11 schools.

Our current total is in excess of £46,000. So a huge thank you to those who helped out during our appeal and financially contributed to this magnificent total which confirms us as one of the top two collectors in Surrey.

What an achievement !

If you can help out for 1 and 1/2 hours at one of our stores during our appeal in the future please contact me at timsnuggs1@gmail.com. You will find it most rewarding and you can still do your food shop afterwards.

Tim Snuggs Vice Chairman and Poppy Appeal Organiser, RBL Banstead and District

Remembrance Day

Leading up to Remembrance Day your Residents Association committee put up over 200 poppies on lamp posts covering five miles of local streets including a stretch of the A217 Brighton Road.

On Remembrance Day the Deputy Mayor assisted in the laying of wreaths at Marbles Way and the Tattenham Corner library. The wreath laying event at the Banstead memorial was particularly well attended with more wreaths and more spectators than ever.



Preston Community Event

The Preston Community Event was another roaring success, attended by over 500 residents.

The afternoon was opened by The Mayor of Reigate, Cllr. Eddy Humphries, who was accompanied by his wife. SING choir entertained us as did DiscoTotz, with some fun dancing.

Stalls were run by local partners, raising awareness of their organisations and providing some great activities. There was a tea tent, bouncy castle, slide, face painting, smoothie bikes, arts and crafts, sports activities, tombola, an animal tent, a raffle, the local neighbourhood police team and Surrey County Council to name a few. All a hit with residents.

We were able to engage with the community to hear what they felt about living in the area and any positive changes they would like to have in place. Maria will work with local residents to support them to put those changes in place. Thank you to Cllr Rebecca Paul and Raven Housing Trust for funding towards the event.

We plan another event next September. If you would like to get involved or have ideas on how to improve the event, please contact your local Community Development Worker,

Maria Hewson: Maria.Hewson@reigate-banstead.gov.uk



Recycling at the Mound

'If fly tipping occurs it will result in this recycling centre being closed and removed.'



If you park at the Mound car park opposite Tattenham Corner train station or just drive past on the way to Epsom Downs, are you like me, exasperated in the way this area very quickly becomes an unsightly mess ?

Reigate and Banstead Council have a great record on recycling, and as well as having bins on your doorstep we have this excellent facility for those extra large pieces. Successful recycling keeps community waste disposal charges lower.

I know that many residents are very respectful of this facility. Maybe as suggested to me it is other households outside of our area abusing this facility as they don't have a similar one close to where they live. An upsurge is also being observed following market days in Epsom.



Perhaps it's the closure several days a week of the Epsom recycling centre that hasn't helped, but can we not wait a few extra days until it opens? In recent days I have seen car tyres, office chairs, artificial grass, paint pots, car batteries and even a child's dolls house that have been dumped.

The Council send out additional vehicles to collect waste that is clearly not allowed here, adding an additional burden and costs. Three times a week the refuse trucks collect the cardboard and paper, but their trip times are massively extended as they sift through what is recyclable and what is not. The other two days see the glass and plastic recovered.

This site is not for commercial vehicles. They are not allowed to use it, but we endlessly see large carpet cardboard rolls filling up the space that we, the residents, need for household waste.

We have recently seen an upgrade at the site with new fencing and more containers that hopefully will stop the litter being blown around. However most of the containers' self-locking lids shut with only small slots to put your waste through, so is it any wonder large boxes are placed on top?

As we approach the festive season this area will only get worse. Last year three large waste disposal trucks attended on a single day between Christmas and the New Year spending in excess of four hours clearing the site.

Please use all the bins; flatten cardboard boxes to make best use of the bins. Dropping waste on the ground is fly tipping. Be warned that the Council issued 125 fines for fly tipping last year. The main point I am making here is to please give some thought as to whether this is the correct place for the items you wish to dispose of.

And I would like to thank the local volunteer litter pickers for patiently clearing the area around the train station on an almost daily basis.



Tim Snuggs

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