

ASSOCIATION OF EWELL DOWNS RESIDENTS

(Founded 1926)

(Non-Political)

NOTICE

The Seventy Fifth Annual General Meeting

will be held at

NESCOT in the Staff Lounge

7.30pm on Tuesday 23 March 2010

GUEST SPEAKER

Jon Sharpe

Transport Fleet & Business Development Manager

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

He will make a short presentation on the recycling measures introduced last year and answer any questions.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of Seventy Fourth AGM held on 3 April 2009
3. Statement of Accounts
4. Report from the Committee
5. Election of Officers, Committee and Examiner of Accounts
6. Councillors' Forum
7. Any Other Business

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The Officers and Committee look forward to seeing you at the Annual General Meeting and we hope you will take this opportunity to meet your neighbours, committee members and councillors informally. Refreshments will be provided from 7.10pm.

The membership subscription of £3.00 per household is now due. It will be a great help if you would kindly pass your subscription, in the envelope provided, to your Road Representative.

(The foregoing does not apply to residents in St James' Avenue whose Association makes a bulk payment)

COMMITTEE REPORT

Jack Borbon

Jack Borbon now in his nineties and after some 27 years on our Committee has reluctantly decided to retire as President of our Association. He was first elected as Hon Treasurer in 1983, became Hon Secretary the next year and Chairman in 1986, a position he held until 1995 when he became our President.

We thank him for his enthusiastic commitment and contribution over so many years and wish him well.

The Chalk Pit

We regret to report that Surrey County Planning Authority granted planning permission in November for the use of the Chalk Pit for the importation, storage and transfer of asbestos, and the provision of two sealed lockable containers and associated concrete hard-standing. We disputed the claim that reduced HGV travel within the locality of the application site and over longer distances will result from this decision and asked County to substantiate this claim. Their reply is as follows:

‘The information was provided by the agent regarding the number of trips to and from the site. We accepted the information on face value and discussed it with the agent. The information related to the empty asbestos containers that were being carried to and from the pit. Currently, an empty container is taken from the Chalk Pit to a site where asbestos is to be removed, and then transported to Dartford regardless of how full it is, before returning to the Chalk Pit. Under the new Planning Permission, the operator can now receive the asbestos in small vans and store the waste in the container on site.

Accordingly the operator will only need the HGV lorries to move that container once it is full, hence reducing the number of HGV movements and the number of vehicle miles travelled by these larger vehicles.

I have no reason to believe that Surrey County Council or any other county has any intention of using the site at the Chalk Pit for the receipt of asbestos. The development should have no impact on operations at the Longmead Estate as the Chalk Pit is a very small site and therefore the total volume of waste asbestos that can be handled is restricted.

The responsibility for ensuring that the asbestos is properly sealed at the individual sites is the responsibility of the trained employees of Abal Waste.

The waste will be bagged and sealed in accordance with Environment Agency guidelines and the Environment Agency will control operations through the issues of a permit to ensure the site complies with the Standard Rules for Asbestos Waste Transfer Stations (reference SR2008No9). The storing of asbestos at the site cannot begin without the relevant EA permit’.

Glyn School Playing Fields

We have been notified of the School's plans to develop in the area immediately behind and stretching away from the existing pavilion outdoor sports facilities to provide high quality playing surfaces for skills development and competition use. The facilities will be used by the School and by locally based community clubs and will incorporate a Synthetic turf pitch (100 x 65 metres) with floodlights, a relocated cricket square and a 6 lane 200 metre J shaped running track.

We support the principle of providing improved sports facilities, but have raised concerns re the floodlighting, noise, parking and litter.

The school is proposing to undertake a public consultation exercise and we hope to keep local residents advised of developments.

68 Reigate Road

A planning application has been submitted for change of use from Dwelling House (C3) to Care Home (C2 use). It is the practice of the Council to advise only immediate neighbours of such applications, so in view of the important and ambiguous implications of the proposal, the Association took it upon itself to deliver an advisory note to the five houses on either side of No 68 . The applicant admits that 'the end user of the property is currently unknown,' (*but*) it is envisaged that the property will provide specialist care, and goes on to refer to Policy H4 of the South East Plan, explaining that 'local authorities should identify a full range of existing and future needs in their areas (*covering*) groups with particular housing needs (*such as*) older and disabled people, students, black and minority ethnic households, families with children, gypsies, travellers and travelling show people'.

Residents' concerns are that, if the application is allowed, the way is open for a use, different from a Care Home, and the enjoyment of their properties might be adversely affected. We have asked for the application to be called in i.e. to come before the Planning Committee rather than be decided by officers under delegated powers.

Potholes

Following the recent frost and snow, roads everywhere have deteriorated badly. We have contacted Surrey Highways Authority with particular regard to the dangerous potholes as one enters Longdown Lane North from the fast moving Reigate Road. If you are concerned about potholes near you, note the exact position, access the Surrey County Council website and advise the Highways Authority accordingly.

Parking Restrictions in Longdown Lane North

We advised those residents immediately affected by the forthcoming introduction of the 'no waiting at any time' restrictions, giving them the opportunity to comment or object to Surrey County Council. As far as we are aware, the painting of yellow lines will proceed in the Spring.

Wallace Fields Primary School and parking

The school has established a 'School Liaison Committee', which among other issues will monitor local parking problems at school dropping off and picking up times. A resident of Higher Green is on that committee and our Road Representatives there will be pleased to introduce you to her should you harbour real concerns and you feel you can add positively to the discussion to resolve those concerns (see Chris Frost's report later).

Longmead Waste Disposal Site

When visiting the site, it is strongly recommended that you take with you evidence/proof of your identity and local residency, otherwise you may find you are turned away. It appears that the site has been used by residents from the London Boroughs; thereby adding unnecessarily to Surrey County Council's recycling costs and therefore our Council Tax bills.

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION

The Association seeks to protect and enhance the interests of residents. Our primary concerns centre on planning, traffic, security and other topics which directly affect our area. To this end, we maintain regular contact with our Councillors who also attend our Committee meetings. Visits are made to the Town Hall to view planning applications and to monitor the agenda items for the committee meetings of prime relevance e.g. Planning, Environment, Leisure and Strategy & Resources, and where appropriate to make our views known

Other activities include sponsoring our election candidates, helping to prepare manifestos and knocking on as many doors as possible at local election time. For the delivery of election manifestos and of our twice yearly newsletters, we rely on the vital services of our Road Representatives, who also provide indispensable communication lines. To keep in touch with Borough-wide issues, Committee members also attend as appropriate meetings of other bodies such as the Standing Committee of Residents Associations (SCoRA), the Environment Forum, Police Liaison, and the Epsom and Ewell branch of CPRE.

FOR NEW RESIDENTS

All residents are eligible to join. If they subsequently have any problems or concerns, we ask that these should first be taken up with the Borough or County Council as appropriate. If you are still not satisfied with the response, please approach your Road Representative, Councillor, or Committee member. Our aim is to assist as best we can

GENERAL ELECTION

For the benefit of new residents, we wish to make it clear that the Residents Associations of Epsom & Ewell do not put up candidates in the Parliamentary election nor will we show public support for any Independent candidates in the Parliamentary election.

If a candidate wishes to stand in the Parliamentary election as an Independent, any resident is free as an individual to support that candidate in whatever way and as much as they wish, but we must make it clear that the RAs are not and will not be involved.

The main rationale is that as RAs, we are local people representing local residents of all political persuasions on local issues on a non-political basis. This means that we are active so far as Borough Council and County Council are concerned, but not so far as UK and European Parliament are concerned.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The following have put themselves forward for re-election:

Officers:	President	Peter Gilder
	Chairman	vacant
	Vice-Chairman	vacant
	Hon. Treasurer	Colin White
	Hon. Secretary	Paula McNally

Committee: Jenny Coleman, Michael Lockyer, Tony Mickelburgh and Ian Morrison

Examiner of Accounts: Gavin Marks

Any further nominations are welcomed and names should be lodged with the Secretary, in writing prior to the AGM. We are currently searching for members in the Reigate Road area and north of the railway line. We are short on representation in that particular area and would love to hear from you if you could help.

DATES FOR MEETINGS 2010/2011

Committee meetings for the coming year will be held at *Nescot College* in *Committee Room1 at 7.30pm* on the following Tuesdays:

11 May
27 July
21 September
23 November
11 January 2011

Residents are welcome to attend, but should give prior notice to the Secretary. Please note that the above dates may be subject to change.

POLICE MATTERS

BEWARE – BOGUS CHARITY COLLECTORS

Please be aware, there are companies that are collecting at the door, who give the impression that they are charities. They are not!

It is very easy to check the authenticity of a charity, either by a search facility on the home page of its website –

www.charity-commission.gov.uk - or by telephone.

For details of Neighbourhood Panel meetings and the name of your Neighbourhood Specialist Officer, check the Surrey Police Website on www.surrey.police.uk or call 0845 125 2222.

INSIGHT

Every resident should receive the Borough's 'Insight' magazine regularly. 'Insight' contains interesting and pertinent information about a wide range of Activities and services in the area, e.g. Community Support, recycling, the Handyman Service, and Neighbourhood Watch etc.

If you are not receiving your quarterly issue, telephone **01372 802718** or email mary@emcomm.co.uk

SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2010/2011

SCC meetings are open to the public and have been arranged for the following dates:

2010

Monday 8 March	7.00pm	Ewell Court House, Ewell
Monday 7 June	7.00pm	Epsom Town Hall, Council Chamber
Monday 13 December	7.00pm	Venue to be arranged

2011

Monday 7 March	7.00pm	Venue to be arranged
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR EPSOM AND EWELL

Our local MP is **Chris Grayling**, who can be contacted at the following:

House of Commons or 212 Barnet Wood Lane
London SW 1A Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2D

COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Epsom & Ewell Borough Council

- **Councillor Clive Woodbridge**

Epsom Hospital

Following the public meeting in Epsom Town Hall last November about the Hospital Trust's proposals for the site investment, residents may now have their say on the future services at Epsom Hospital through the Council's website. On the homepage, www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk, there is a 'quick link' to the 'Hospital' page, via a large blue and white 'H', and residents can comment through a feedback form on the website which also incorporates a copy of the Epsom & St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust's Strategic Outline Case, along with the presentation to the public meeting, which sets out the Trust's current thinking on the options for investment.

Ewell West Station upgrade

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, Network Rail and local police are working together on a project aimed at renovating and making better use of the 'upstairs' section of Ewell West station.

The Council is planning to allocate Section 106 monies, from the Highways House development, alongside money from Network Rail to provide a facility that staff and officers from Surrey and British Transport police can use as a local base and also to hold surgeries with the local community.

One of the aims of the project is to tackle antisocial behaviour which has been identified as a problem at the station and in the nearby area. The project will be designed to improve the visual appearance of the listed building while the presence of staff in the building will mean criminal damage in and around the station area is less likely to occur. The plan is also for the venue to be used as a drop-in centre for young people.

Meanwhile money has now been allocated by the Council to provide lighting in Gibraltar Recreation ground to help commuters using the park's currently unlit

footpath to access the station. It is hoped that solar powered lighting will be installed within a matter of months, although planning permission has to be sought first.

Leaf Collection Service

Epsom & Ewell Council is to start offering a leaf collection service, as an extension of the successful green waste collection service. This will now enable residents to subscribe to collections of leaves from their gardens using a specially provided, re-usable sack. The service will run through the leaf fall season from September, and probably at a cost of around £4 a year.

This replaces an existing scheme, which enabled residents in a small number of roads to have a free collection of leaves, but now will be available Borough-wide. It will also enable the leaves collected to be recycled or composted rather than sent to landfill.

Herald of Spring

This year the Herald of Spring festival at Bourne Hall will be held over the weekend of March 6-7th, from 10am to 5pm and will have a medieval theme. There will be a craft and flower market, music from the Epsom Light Opera and the Silver Band, and live medieval enactors, including jesters, minstrels, and storytellers. Visitors will have the chance to go to Knight School, embark on a quest, try brass rubbing, play war games, learn to dance and try their hand at spinning and weaving!

Admission is - £3 for adults, £2 for OAPs, with free entry for children under 12 years.

Further information about this event can be found on the following website: www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/heraldofspring

Surrey County Council (SCC)

- **Councillor Chris Frost**

Wallace Fields Infant School

I have been working with local residents and the school to see what can be done about the problems caused by the additional children admitted last September. I have persuaded the school to set up a liaison committee, at which local residents, Governors and the Head teacher will discuss and seek to resolve various issues. The first meeting is due to take place just after this Newsletter goes to press. I have also arranged for some residents to meet with the County's Education Officers to discuss the general issue of school admissions, and the prospect for this coming September. I am also supporting moves to

consider changing Ewell Grove Infant School to a Primary school, as this would mean that some of the children who currently look to join Wallace Fields Junior School from there would no longer have to compete for places with more locally based children. It should mean that the more children who live close to the school, the smaller the numbers that need to be driven.

Surrey County Council drops Energy from Waste plants

In December the new Leader of the Council announced that there are no longer plans to build Energy from Waste (EfW) plants in Surrey. Residents are now doing so well at producing less waste and recycling more that we are in a position to look at alternative methods of dealing with our waste and saving both money and our countryside. The council's new approach to waste will concentrate on reducing the amount of waste Surrey produces, encouraging people to reuse things where they can and recycle as much as possible after that. The new plans will lead to a reduction in the amount of household waste dealt with every year by 35,000 tons. SCC is currently recycling about 47% of our waste; the new target is to be recycling around 70% by 2013, which will put the council among the best performers in the world.

New streetlight contract signed at last

Surrey CC has signed a contract that will transform the county's street lighting system, with the biggest roll out of revolutionary new energy saving technology in the country. Overall the agreement is expected to save Surrey taxpayers at least £12 million. This deal will see private sector consortium Skanska Laing installing bright white lights to replace the current inefficient orange glow street lamps. Individual lighting columns will be remotely controlled from a new control centre near Guildford. In the first 5 years of the contract, all the county's 89,000 lights will be upgraded – 70,000 being replaced and 19,000 refurbished. This will lead to savings of around 60,000 tonnes of carbon and 150 million kilowatt hours over the 25-year contract. The technology will be better for the environment thanks to increased energy savings and reduced carbon emissions. At present Surrey's street lights are programmed to come on and go off at set times in the day, so there are no opportunities to make energy savings. Under the new system lighting will be increased where it is most needed, and reduced where it is not – for example as the sun begins to rise in the morning. Lights will be repaired more quickly and efficiently with the new remote monitoring technology. This will mean broken and faulty lights will be automatically reported via the system, which should provide more consistent and reliable lighting for residents. A substantial proportion of the cost to get this project up and running will be funded by a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) grant worth £73.9m from central government.

However the day to day running and maintenance of the system will be covered by the council's existing street lighting budget.

Current policy on repairing streetlights

Surrey Highways are currently operating a minimal repair programme on street lighting. This is due to the fact that the street lighting PFI is due to start early next year, and they are minimising the amount of money they spend on columns that will be replaced during the 5 year investment period. The prioritisation process they have put in place is:

“We classify repairs into two main categories. These are:

- ***High Priority*** – this includes damaged / uprooted bollards, damaged regulatory signs and damaged street lighting columns
- ***Low Priority*** – this includes all other works such as lantern replacements and straightening streetlights that are leaning

A number of other factors are considered when assessing the priority that the repair should be given. These include how busy the road is, the risk of road traffic collisions and locations identified as ‘high crime areas’ by the Police. It is appreciated that this approach means that there are a number of streetlights in the County that are not repaired when they go out of light.”

New Highway contract

The County Council will be looking to secure a new contract to improve the county's highways. For the last six years Ringway and Carillion have been working on behalf of the Council to maintain and improve roads throughout the county, under the Surrey Highways Partnership. Following a tendering process the successful bidder will begin operating under a brand new contract, from April 2011.

Government funding for 2010/11

The government's latest finance settlement confirmed that Surrey County Council would receive £1.8 million more than in 2009/10, a 1.5% increase. The average rise for county councils was just under 4%. The average increase for all types of local authority was 2.6%. The total amount the county council will receive in government funding in 2010/11 is £127.5 million. The figure for 2009/10 was £125.7 million.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We were able to record a surplus of £189 after one off election expenses of £92 (although we have received a further £46 subsequent to the year end). Our reserves now stand at £1635.00.

Annual subscriptions will remain this year at £3 per household. May I again thank all our Road Representatives for their excellent work in delivering our newsletters and collecting the subscriptions, which is very much appreciated.

Association of Ewell Downs Residents 2010 – 2011

OFFICERS

Vice-President	Peter Gilder, 44A Ewell Downs Road
Chairman	<i>Vacant</i>
Vice- Chairman:	<i>Vacant</i>
Hon Treasurer:	Colin D White, 42 Longdown Lane North
Hon. Secretary:	Paula McNally, 25 Longdown Lane North

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jenny Coleman, 24 Longdown Lane North
Peter Kalinowski, 5 Higher Green
Michael Lockyer, 18 Higher Green
Ian Morrison, 31 Higher Green
Danny Scanlon, Cherry Tree Cottage, Reigate Road

ROAD REPRESENTATIVES

Beech Walk	Meurig Thomas, 16 Beech Walk
Ewell Downs Road	
North End	Sheila Fairley, 1 Ewell Downs Road
South End	Joan England, 46 Ewell Downs Road
The Green	
North End	Paul Evans, 7 The Green
South End	Ann Broad, 77 The Green
Hampton Grove	Kim Thorp, 3 Hampton Grove
Higher Green	
Even numbers	Michael Lockyer, 18 Higher Green
Odd numbers	Liz Jones, 37 Higher Green
Langton Avenue	Michael Arthur, 20A Langton Avenue
Longdown Lane North	
North End	Graham Evans, 30 Longdown Lane North
South End	Steve Gebbett, 53 Longdown Lane North
Park Hill Road	
Reigate Road	
No. 28, 34-52	Meurig Thomas, 16 Beech Walk
No. 54-92	Peter Wilson, 'Tandlewood' (Next to 54)
No. 94-118	Carol Billam, Cefn, Nth Looe Estate

No. 120-140 Carol Billam, Cefn, Nth Looe Estate
Small Holdings
The Looe-143 Carol Billam, Cefn, Nth. Looe Estate
St James Avenue Jason Barnett, 15 St James' Avenue
Windmill Avenue Sharon Perks, 21 Windmill Lane
Windmill Lane Sharon Perks, 21 Windmill Lane
No 1-21

BOROUGH COUNCILLORS

Ewell Ward

Michael Arthur	20A Langton Avenue	020 8393 1476
Pamela Bradley	Nulli Secundus, Chessington Road	020 8394 2491
Clive Woodbridge	16 Corbet Road	020 8393 2853

Nonsuch Ward

David Wood	1 Hays Walk, Cheam	020 8786 9386
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SURREY COUNTY COUNCILLORS

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