

Summer 2013

Parish Council NEWS



Making Caterham Hill a better place to live. Please join us.



Councillor Sarah Burningham, Chairman of the Parish Council

I have been a Parish Councillor for 13 years and over that time have worked with a large number of fellow councillors and hope that we have helped make the Hill a better place in which to live. There are only nine of us and we realise that there is a limit to what we can achieve.

The most satisfying part of being a Parish Councillor is working with other community organisations and groups of residents or local businesses on joint activities.

We are happy to support the long established Caterham Carnival and the more recently formed Caterham Festival. Both these organisations work hard all year to provide much enjoyment to Caterham and beyond.

Likewise we are grateful for support at such events as our Cedar Tree Event at Christmas from local schools, scouts and guides and local businesses such as Buxtons, Blends, King and Queen and Waitrose (see the back page).



This winter, groups of residents again gritted their own roads after bins were installed by the Parish Council. Building up contacts with residents who are prepared to help themselves has contributed to improvements in keeping the Hill moving during snow. If residents clear the pavements outside their houses this also helps enormously. Volunteers also helped go out with a push along gritter to keep the shopping areas clear.

In the Spring, residents of Manor Avenue and Park Avenue planted 5 trees at their own expense to replace those lost over the years (see page 3). Again this is an example of people wanting something done to improve their environment and doing the work themselves. As a council we were happy to cover these trees under our insurance and it was also heartening when Nick and John Dance planted the trees at no cost.

Hillcroft School have organised the re-planting of the Hillcroft planters which are full of daffodils this Spring with the help of a grant from the Parish Council.

Speedwatch volunteers have once again been generous in giving up their time to help keep our roads safer.

We are very grateful to everyone who helps with the above as well as to all those who have been working in the numerous voluntary groups which contribute so much to life on the Hill. If you would like to get involved with existing events or if you want to start something new, tell us of your ideas.



Councillor Sarah Burningham

The Parish Council Facebook page has 83 'likes' so far and has reached up to 186 people with its posts during the last few months. We have been able to use it to pass on information about events such as the Cedar Tree lighting and the consultation on the Pinewood Garage site. We



have also been able to gather timely feedback from residents - particularly useful during the snow! If you are a Facebook user, search for Caterham on the Hill Parish Council and 'like' our page to keep up to date with local news and events linked to the parish council. We really appreciate comments from residents - it's a great way for residents to flag up local issues which we may be able to help with.



The Parish Warden continues to report issues with potholes, hedges, litter, graffiti etc. If you have any issues you would like reported please email caterhamhillpc@msn.com.

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Neighbourhood Plan

Residents of Caterham, Chaldon and Whyteleafe continue to work on creating a Neighbourhood Plan for our area. This is an opportunity to take part in shaping how our area will look over the next 20 years, and we would welcome more involvement from local people. Please look at the website to find out how you can help. Please do fill in the residents' questionnaire, if you haven't done so already, using the link on the CR3 Forum site.

Local people say they like living here but many are concerned about the changes that have taken place and feel that their views are ignored. Take this opportunity to get involved. Open days will be taking place in September so please come to them and find out what is happening. Dates, times and venues will be advertised nearer to the time.



PLANNING UPDATE

Hilary Turner. Chairman, Planning Committee

The Parish Council comments on planning applications of significance and assesses changes in Tandridge District Council's (TDC) planning policies. This has been another busy year.

Here are a few of the main headlines from 2012-13:

- The Oaklands (now 'Oakgrove') development was approved despite many objections, including from the Parish Council. TDC also approved the huge hoardings more recently. However, we did have success in choosing the street names within the new estate. The Parish Councillors for Westway Ward continue to monitor problems including noise, dust, parking, highway damage, etc, take up issues with contractors and TDC.
- Two main sites within the Parish around Kenley Airfield have been the subject of planning applications, including both Listed Buildings:
- TDC refused permission for a proposal to convert the Officers Mess to apartments, and this decision was supported at Appeal in December 2012. However, there may be a possibility of compromise here.
- An application for rebuilding an extension of the workshop next to the former Airfield HQ and NAAFI was withdrawn on day of the TDC Committee meeting in June 2012, after strong objections by the Parish Council. The owners are understood to be considering selling the site.



The Parish Council hosted a public meeting to explore options for re-use of the former Pinewood Garage site in Caterham on the Hill

Your Parish Council will remain vigilant on both sites; our primary objective is to encourage restoration and re-use of the Listed Buildings through acceptable new uses of the sites.

- A new formal application is understood to be imminent for the former Pinewood Garage site, following a public meeting presented by applicant's agent and hosted by the Parish Council. The site is now boarded up following our request.

The Parish Council was consulted by TDC on a draft Local Plan Management Document. We submitted extensive comments and some objections.

In future, our comments on planning applications will be posted on our website.



Jarvis Kenrick

Caterham Hill's place in Football History

On November 11th 1871, Hill resident 19 year old Jarvis Kenrick scored the first ever goal in the FA Cup Competition in a first round 3-0 victory for Clapham Rovers over Upton Park. Jarvis was the son of Jarvis Kenrick, Rector of Caterham and was living at the rectory (now Cedar House). The Kenricks lived here from 1857 until 1874 and it was during that time that St Marys Church was built.

Although Clapham were knocked out in a later round, Jarvis won three consecutive FA Cup winner's medals for the Wanderers, scoring in two finals. He also played one first class match for Surrey County Cricket Club and was secretary of the All England Croquet Association.

Jarvis married and had nine daughters and we have attempted, with some success, to contact his descendants. His family lived for a time in 17th Century Pendell House in Bletchingly.

To commemorate this momentous event in 1871, the Parish Council is erecting a plaque at his former home on Friday 28th June. Representatives of both sports including players from Clapham Rovers and Wanderers and members of Surrey County Cricket along with some of Jarvis' descendants have been invited to take part in this event.



ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Jeremy Webster

The Parish Council has begun to collect and preserve recorded memories of local people. There have been similar projects before, but the PC thought that something unique to Caterham Hill might be worthwhile. The Parish will continue to undergo rapid change and if we don't record people talking about everyday events from the past and their own life stories this "Oral History" will soon be lost forever.

So far, Councillor Sue Gauge and I have conducted a pilot study, talking to five people to test the interviewing process and recording machine. Sue is now working with Ridge Radio to go through the recordings and extracting stories to fit into the main themes we have chosen: earliest recollections of life in Caterham; education; the main institutions; local businesses and shops.

We have been privy to some fascinating recollections. We have heard unique war memories: German Bombers observed following the by-pass towards Kenley aerodrome; how people walked from

Caterham to caves in Kenley to shelter from the bombs. We have learned about long lost local shops and what life was like at school. We have heard about arduous commutes to jobs far away and certain local "characters", one or two of whom were a bit scary!

Most interesting to me, as someone fascinated by social history, were glimpses of what family life was really like, both pre and post second world war: how lives were dramatically shaped by certain events and key players in the local community. In some cases therefore, anonymity has had to be preserved.

The next stage of the project will be to focus on picking up more information on key institutions: the Hospital, Barracks and the Churches. We also want to record the exact position of local businesses and shops. We have lined up another ten interviewees to collect information on key themes and hope to publish extracts from our conversations either on a CD or in snippets on the Parish Website.

As someone once wrote: "You don't know what you've got till its gone."

The Parish Council has pledged £20,000 towards a new road crossing on Whyteleafe Road outside the three schools (Audley, St Francis and Sunnydown)

This crossing is now Surrey County Council's number one scheme with £128k allocated to it.

Parish Council grants have been given to the following organisation this year: Skaterham (towards signs in Guards Avenue), The East Surrey Museum, Caterham Carnival, The Horticultural Show and the Caterham Community Choir.

Caterham on the Hill Parish Council has decided on no change to this year's Precept. It remains at £14.20 a year for an average (Band D) house.



The Parish Council organised for the re-design of Hillcroft Corner this Spring.



TREES

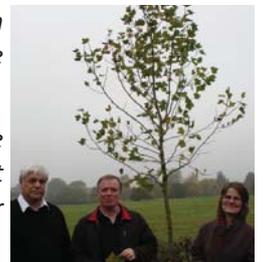
After much negotiating with Surrey County Council the Manor Avenue residents finally managed to plant five new trees along the verges of Manor Avenue.

The residents paid for the trees and the Parish Council helped by indemnifying the County Council against any damage the trees may cause and organising contractors to plant them.

Local farmers Nick and John Dance very kindly offered their services, plus stakes and ties, free of charge saying 'if we can't give an hour of our time to the community it would be a poor show.' THANK YOU.

This Autumn a new tree was planted on Westway Common to replace the tree removed due to disease.

The Parish Council had offered to contribute to a replacement tree. Tandridge District Council however kindly offered to pay for the tree and its planting.



CATERHAM COMMUNITY CHOIR

Tuesday 23 April saw the launch of the long awaited Caterham Community Choir. Over 100 people attended the taster sessions funded by the Parish Council. The choir is in the style Natural Voice. Singing leader Catherine Pestano says "It is a style which is great for building community, inclusion of those who are just starting on their singing journeys and need confidence.

For more information please contact arts@tandridgetrust.co.uk

Thank you



The Parish Council has a lot of people to thank this year for helping with the Cedar Tree Lights.

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.

Blends Catering who supplied the mince pies free of charge.

The **King and Queen** and **Waitrose** for supplying free mulled wine and cider

The **Girl Guides** and **St Francis School** who sang carols so beautifully.

The **Scouts** and **Mr Parr** who supplied equipment and helped out on the night.

Father Christmas and his helpers.

THANK YOU also to all those who came along on such a wet and cold evening. £156 was raised for the Friends of Caterham Dene.

Councillor Burningham presenting a cheque to the Friends of Caterham Dene



Council meetings take place on certain Wednesdays at Caterham on the Hill Library at 7.30pm.

The next meetings take place on 3 July and 11 September.

Members of the public are welcome to attend and have the opportunity to give their comments.

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.

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 30 July 2013 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Tuesday 24 September 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

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