CATERHAM VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Serving our Community

April 2017

A Message from the Chairman

There are many groups working for Caterham to improve the town and the lives of the residents, to make Caterham a place where people want to live and to encourage businesses to the town. Caterham businesses have voted unanimously to proceed with a Business Improvement District (BID) which aims to improve the look of the town. The CR3 Forum Neighbourhood Plan is ongoing and we hope to go to public consultation in the next few months with a referendum towards the end of the year.

There have been many local concerns too since the last newsletter. Surrey County Council has confirmed that many street lights in our area will be switched off at 12 midnight and we believe there are public safety issues associated with this.

The Tandridge Local Plan has put forward local sites for building development. The Parish Council is adamant that our Green Open Spaces are very important to the well-being of residents and has responded to the consultations. Our comments to both of these consultations can be found on our website.

The Parish Council has also developed a Business Plan which will be launched at our Annual Parish Meeting on 31st May.

We hope that many of you will attend the events listed in the Dates For Your Diary section of the newsletter.

Cllr Jenny Gaffney

---

ASPREY FOUNTAIN

The Asprey Fountain is in need of attention and the Parish Council is paying for the cleaning and repair of the Fountain by Downsview Monumental Company. We are expecting the works to be completed by the end of April.

---

TOWN CENTRE PLANTERS

The Parish Council is funding the replacement planting of the large planters and the hanging baskets in Caterham Valley. In the next few weeks, the planters will be replanted with a view to cheering up the town centre and making the planters much more attractive.

---

FAMILY PICNIC AT TIMBERHILL RECREATION GROUND ON SUNDAY 18TH JUNE 2017

Caterham Valley Parish Council is very pleased to announce that, as part of the Caterham Festival, we will be sponsoring a Family Picnic in Timberhill Recreation Ground on Sunday 18th June 2017. The event, which is new to the Festival calendar, will take place from 12 noon until 17:00 and there will be Music, a Treasure Hunt, Face Painting, Children’s Entertainment, and of course, an Ice-Cream Van. Just bring your own picnic and drinks, although water and squash will be freely available. Check the Parish Council website for details and there will be notices in the local papers and Facebook pages closer to the date.

---

DEFIBRILLATORS

Defibrillators in Caterham are located in the following places – The Miller Centre Theatre on Godstone Road, Soper Hall on Harestone Valley Road and Park & Bailey Estate agents on Caterham Hill High Street. The Parish Council are reviewing other venues. Please contact our Clerk if you have any suggestions.

---

Hedges and Trees

Please keep an eye on your trees and hedges if they overhang or spread out into the pavement, public footpath or obscure a road sign. Please make sure that you cut them back.

---

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk
Caterham Rotary Bunny Fun Run  
Sunday 9th April  
Caterham & District Horticultural Society Show  
Saturday 22nd April  
Caterham Scouts  
St George’s Day Parade  
Sunday 23rd April  
Soper Hall Maker’s Market  
Saturday 29th April  
Surrey County Council Elections  
Thursday 4th May  
DeFest, two days of music  
Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th May  
Annual Parish Meeting  
Wednesday 31st May  
7:30pm at The Soper Hall  
Caterham Street Party  
Sunday 4th June  
Caterham Carnival  
Saturday 10th June  

International Food Market  
Sunday 11th June  
Waller Pain (Waller Lane Cycle Race)  
Sunday 11th June  
Exhibition and talk about  
Caterham Barracks  
Friday 16th June  
Soper Hall Summer Fair  
Saturday 17th June  
Medieval Banquet  
Saturday 17th June  
Model Air Show  
Westway Common Saturday 17th June  
Picnic at Timberhill Recreation Ground  
Sunday 18th June  
Last Night of the Proms with the Oxted Band and Caterham Games on Westway  
Common Saturday 24th June  

3 days of Jazz on 29th & 30th June & 1st July at the Miller Centre and other local venues in the Valley  
Soper Hall Maker’s Market  
Saturday 19th August  
Soper Hall Maker’s Market  
Saturday 21st October  
Caterham Round Table Fireworks  
(Surrey’s biggest bonfire)  
Saturday 4th November  
Caterham Valley Christmas Market and Lights Switch On  
Saturday 25th November  
For street market stalls contact clerk@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk  
For charity stalls in Church Walk contact lynne.boyd@churchwalkcaterham.com  
and for stalls at Soper Hall email soperfairs@gmail.com  
Caterham on the Hill  
Cedar Tree Lights Switch On  
Sunday 26th November  

CR3 Forum Neighbourhood Plan (NP) Consultation  

Caterham Valley, Caterham Hill, Chaldon & Whyteleafe are working together to get a better deal in the CR3 area. The CR3 Forum NP Steering Committee has collated the responses from the recent consultation. Reflecting residents’ views and following further changes to planning rules, a further resident consultation on the revised document will take place soon. The planning policies that will be presented in the forthcoming Draft Neighbourhood Plan are going through their final checks now. Once these have been completed, the publicity can be started. Notices will be put in the local papers, social media and the Parish Council website so please look out for this. Hard copies will also be available to view at Caterham Valley and Westway libraries.

The NP is different from the Tandridge area Local Plan which deals with the whole area of Tandridge. Tandridge consists of 94% Greenbelt which means that most of the development takes place in 6% of the area. Caterham and Whyteleafe have had over 60% of development in the last 10 years. It is important for our area that we have development that is more appropriate in CR3 which complements the town, encourages people to shop, and allows them to work closer to where they live.

The Neighbourhood Plan has considered all the different needs and pressures in the CR3 area and it will be for you to vote at a referendum next year. The referendum question will be on whether you want the Neighbourhood Plan policies to be used in planning decisions. For more information and to comment, visit www.cr3forum.org.uk or contact info@cr3forum.org.uk.

CATERHAM VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL PRESENTS DONATION CHEQUES TO THE CATERHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH AND THE CATERHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE  

Caterham Valley Parish Council presented donation cheques to Marion Tait of the Caterham Community Centre and Pamela Marshall-Jones of the Caterham United Reformed Church to say a huge thank you for coming to the rescue on the day of the Christmas Light Switch-On in Caterham Valley on Saturday 26th November. On the morning of the Christmas market, we received a phone call from the company supplying the market stalls in Croydon Road to say that the lorry had broken down in Oxfordshire and could not deliver the stalls. Our Parish Clerk, Maureen Gibbins, called Helen Hammer of the Caterham Volunteer Bureau and Helen arranged to borrow tables from the Caterham Community Centre and the Caterham United Reformed Church, who were able to assist us at very short notice. Volunteers rallied to transport the tables to Croydon Road and help to set them up in time for the festivities later in the day. Waitrose also supplied cages that were placed on their side to use as tables. With grateful thanks to the Church and Community Centre, the Parish Council decided to make a donation from the funds that would have gone to the hire company. The support from these community groups helped to make the day such a success.

Clock on the Roundabout  
There have been a number of issues with the clock on the roundabout in Caterham. Because the roundabout is often in a state of disrepair, the contractors have been unable on occasions to carry out repairs. We are currently looking at options for the roundabout and once this has been resolved, we will consider the options for the long-term maintenance of the clock.

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk
Tandridge District Local Plan
Consultation

COUNCIL TO INTRODUCE FINES FOR
DOG FOULING AND POOR DOG CONTROL

The Community Services Committee meeting in January agreed to trial new dog control powers called Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) to tackle dog fouling and dog control issues in Master Park, Oxted and Queens Park, Caterham. These will make fouling and failing to pick up after a dog an offence, as well as banning dogs from the fenced children’s play areas at each location. A PSPO could attract a fine of £100 and/or exclusion of the dog from named areas. The measures do not apply to assistance dogs. Before the new powers can be introduced, the Council has to carry out a six-week public consultation to find out what residents think about the proposals. If there is public support, the trial areas will be approved and introduced. If this is successful, the Council will consider extending the powers across the district.

TDC RESOURCES COMMITTEE AGREES NEW APPROACH TO INVESTMENT

TDC Resources Committee agreed to a new approach to property investment with the setting up of a property investment fund of £50m, alongside a property investment company. The fund will allow the Council to buy land or buildings up to a total capital value of £50m to generate a significant revenue stream, which will be reinvested to provide services and fund projects to regenerate and enhance the vitality of town centres, as well as fill the gap left by the reduction in government grant.

A property investment company needs to be set up to allow investment in properties outside the district. Until now, the Council’s property investment strategy has focused on buying assets within the district up to a total capital value of £2m to generate rental income.

Councillor Simon Ainsworth, Chairman of the Resources Committee, said: “Reduced government funding means we need to be innovative in finding other ways to reduce costs and generate income. This new approach to investment is part of our long-term financial planning to help the Council become financially self-sufficient, while maintaining and improving services. This includes a desire to continue providing some of the discretionary services, such as the well-being prescription, which we know residents value.”

Fly tipping

A reward of up to £500 is offered by the Council to anyone who provides information which leads to a successful prosecution for fly tipping. To report a fly tip as it happens, please call Surrey Police on 999. If a fly tip is blocking a road, call Surrey County Council on 0300 200 1003. If it is not in progress, but you have information, fill in the form on www.tandridge.gov.uk/flytipping. Alternatively call Customer Services on 01883 722000.

DOG FOULING AND POOR DOG CONTROL

Taking care of your garden waste

Stop lugging heavy bags of grass clippings, plants, weeds, small branches and leaves to the local tip and join the Green Waste Club. 7,500 residents subscribe to the service in Tandridge. The Club, operated by waste contractor Biffa, collects garden waste every fortnight for recycling into compost and soil conditioner, rather than being sent to landfill. Club membership starts from just £4.33 per month (plus a one-off £10 bin delivery fee) and there are a number of payment options and subscription periods available. Neighbours with small gardens can also share a membership, reducing the cost even further. In return, you will receive a 240 litre wheeled bin which the Club’s crew collect and empty every two weeks. Telephone 0800 085 8286 for more information.

Caterham Valley Parish Council 2017 – 2020 Business Plan

Launching at the Caterham Valley Parish Council Annual Parish Meeting on 31st May 2017

We have spent time developing a Business Plan which will form the framework within which we will work. Our aim is simple, to create a town where people feel their voice is heard, where they want to spend time and where they are proud to say that they live. We will work with residents and businesses to help smarten things up, enabling us to get around easily and safely with more activities to do and creating fun events around the town.

SPONSOR A BENCH

Caterham Valley Parish Council is looking to replace some of the benches around the town. If you would like to sponsor a bench, the cost is circa £350, which would include a plaque fixed to the bench in remembrance of a loved one or special event. Please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk.

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk
Surrey Police provide advice for keeping your home safe and secure. There have been a number of thefts and vehicle crime incidents in Caterham over the last few months. Please take care with your property. Mark your property using property marking kits such as Selecta DNA/Smartwater and register valuable property at immobilise.com. It is free of charge and can deter a thief. For further crime prevention advice, please go to www.surreypolice.co.uk where there is information on home/cyber/vehicle security or contact your local neighbourhood team on 101.

East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership awarded funding for dial-a-ride services

East Surrey Rural Transport Partnership has been awarded funding from Tandridge District Council to provide dial-a-ride services from 3rd April 2017. The new service will be offered across the district and will include transport around the district, to the Douglas Brunton Centre and the opportunity for residents to book days out. This follows a review of community transport, which generally serves an older and/or disabled population, which aimed to improve the service, while achieving better value for money. Currently, Tandridge district residents have access to a range of community transport services. These include a dial-a-ride minibus service, a taxi voucher scheme and a range of smaller, niche voluntary services although provision across the district can vary. The new service will provide a more comprehensive service for the whole district extending the range of transport options available to residents in rural areas.

Tandridge District Council is undertaking a review of parking across the district

The review will look at provision and enforcement of off-street parking, on-street parking (working with Surrey County Council, the highways authority) and commuter parking with a view to introducing charges.

Face to face parking surveys and a review of car park use will be carried out in Caterham. Local residents, visitors and business employees will be interviewed to find out their views on current and future parking.

Although we do not yet have confirmed dates, do look out for the consultation. Once dates are confirmed, surveys can be completed by picking up a paper copy from the Council Offices or Caterham Library or online at www.tandridge.gov.uk/parkingsurvey.

Supplementary Consultation on plans to introduce a new landing system for Runway 03 at Biggin Hill Airport

London Biggin Hill Airport plans to install an all-weather aircraft guidance system for flights landing at the airport from the south-west. That Consultation Document, and the Post-Consultation Report, are published on the airport’s website at www.bigginhillairport.com/stakeholder-consultation. The original consultation determined that further work was necessary to resolve some technical details with other airspace users, including Heathrow and Gatwick Airports. An amendment is proposed to the last few miles of the approach route, which more closely follows the line of existing transport infrastructure (the A23 trunk road and the M25). This supplementary consultation, which runs for a six-week period from 27th February until mid-April 2017, is specifically about that amendment. You can respond as a constituency, local government, interest group or airspace user group representative – or as a neighbour or other stakeholder. To access the consultation document, and for guidance as to how you can respond, go to www.bigginhillairport.com/stakeholder-consultation.

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk
**TOUGHER MOBILE PHONE USE PENALTIES**

Since the beginning of March 2017, tougher new penalties for using a mobile phone behind the wheel will see motorists face a £200 fine and six penalty points on their licence.

The increases come into force as a result of a government consultation with the public. The changes not only demonstrate how socially unacceptable the Department of Transport want to make the practice but how intolerant motorists themselves are of it.

The new penalties reflect that using your phone while driving has long been a very dangerous activity and is a reason for many serious crashes. Get into the habit of telling people who may contact you that you will be driving – it is also their responsibility to not call you while you are doing this.

The law states that the only time you can use a hand-held mobile phone whilst driving is when calling 999 in an emergency. Hands-free kits are allowed by law but they can still be an in car distraction. If a police officer thinks you are not in proper control of a vehicle, this can also be an offence.

**CLEANER SIGNS IN CATERHAM THANKS TO ADAM BROOKS OF BROOKS EXTERIOR CLEANING**

Many of you will have noticed the damaged state of the roundabout in the town centre. This has come about because drivers are parking outside Barclays and KFC which results in larger vehicles not having the manoeuvrability to get around the roundabout, causing them to mount the roundabout and displace the paving. When drivers have been informed that it is illegal to park on a roundabout, Parish Councillors have been verbally abused.

Cllr Sally Marks, through her members allowance, has enabled the roundabout to be repaired on a number of occasions. However, a permanent solution needs to be found to stop the damage occurring. Caterham Valley Parish Council is in discussion with Surrey County Council to find a long-term solution to the issue to have this resolved. We would remind residents that it is illegal to park on the roundabout and that those who continue to do so are contributing to the taxpayers costs for repairs.

**Caterham Valley Roundabout**

A large number of residents travel outside of “normal” hours and either use first or last public transport services. The timings of the light switch off do not take account of this. Whilst the area does not have a significant night-time economy, the areas proximity to Croydon and London means that shift patterns may vary from those in the rest of the District and County.

We have raised concerns with regard to issues with road safety and what could result in an increase in vehicle collisions. This is due to narrow roads, with cars parked on both sides with no lighting. The proposed changes, published with no detail of the risk assessments, and with the very real concern to personal safety, property and lack of co-ordination with the local Parish Councils or with the timings of public transport, should not go ahead. The concerns raised by our residents far outweigh the c£16,000 saving per year this would generate in Tandridge. Therefore, the team responsible should be tasked with investigating lower energy options that will save the required £16,000.

The final meetings with Surrey Police are not scheduled until the middle of March and so lights will not be switched off in Tandridge until they have been completed. Approximately 10% of proposed lights following site assessment are subsequently excluded and final lists will be published a few days before the switch off is commenced. There is the potential for Parish Councils to contribute to the costs to avoid lights being switched off. Indicative costs for each ward in Tandridge are being prepared and updated information will be available on our website www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk.

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk

**STREET LIGHTING IN CATERHAM**

Caterham Valley Parish Council has serious concerns about the proposed overnight switch off of street lights in Caterham Valley and Harestone and has written to David Hodge, the Leader of Surrey County Council to express these concerns.

A large number of residents travel outside of “normal” hours and either use first or last public transport services. The timings of the light switch off do not take account of this. Whilst the area does not have a significant night-time economy, the areas proximity to Croydon and London means that shift patterns may vary from those in the rest of the District and County.

We have raised concerns with regard to issues with road safety and what could result in an increase in vehicle collisions. This is due to narrow roads, with cars parked on both sides with no lighting. The proposed changes, published with no detail of the risk assessments, and with the very real concern to personal safety, property and lack of co-ordination with the local Parish Councils or with the timings of public transport, should not go ahead. The concerns raised by our residents far outweigh the c£16,000 saving per year this would generate in Tandridge. Therefore, the team responsible should be tasked with investigating lower energy options that will save the required £16,000.

The final meetings with Surrey Police are not scheduled until the middle of March and so lights will not be switched off in Tandridge until they have been completed. Approximately 10% of proposed lights following site assessment are subsequently excluded and final lists will be published a few days before the switch off is commenced. There is the potential for Parish Councils to contribute to the costs to avoid lights being switched off. Indicative costs for each ward in Tandridge are being prepared and updated information will be available on our website www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk.

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk
CATERHAM AS A BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)

Following a referendum of local business, Caterham became a BID area last December with a view to making Caterham a better place to shop, visit and work. BIDs deliver any project or service that is agreed by the businesses in the BID area and that are over and above anything provided by the public sector. BIDs can also reduce operational costs for businesses through, for example, the collective buying of insurance, or disposal of commercial waste. A BID allows businesses to raise a sum of money to manage and deliver projects that they have identified, which will improve the trading environment. The idea is that businesses that are paying for the improvements will ultimately benefit.

The cost to each business is worked out on a pro rata basis. This is called the ‘BID LEVY’. The BID levy is normally paid by the business ratepayer of the property. In addition, BIDs can draw in other voluntary funding, grants and ‘in-kind’ contributions to supplement the BID levy. BIDs are normally controlled and managed by local businesses that are paying the levy. The BID company would be responsible for the delivery of the BID projects and services, and directly responsible to all businesses through a board elected from those businesses that pay the BID levy.

CCTV AT STAFFORD ROAD RECREATION GROUND

The play equipment at Stafford Road Recreation was removed last year because of vandalism. To enable its reinstatement, Caterham Valley Parish Council has installed CCTV cameras. We have contributed £5,000 towards this with Tandridge funding the remainder. We are hoping that the play equipment will be reinstated in the next few months.

The Caterham Rotary Bunny Fun Run will be held on Sunday 9th April in Queens Park Caterham. Every finisher will be given an Easter egg and Ian Mathers, the Vet on the Hill, will be presenting large eggs to the best-dressed bunnies and winners in each race. The guest of honour and starter is Chairman of Tandridge District Council Pat Cannon and warm ups will be led by Emily of Bunny Hop Dance and Fitness. The first run is the 1K, which starts at 10.00am followed by the 5K at 10.30am. A Registration Fee and a Signed Form are required for each runner - £6.00 for the 5km race and £3.00 for the 1km Fun Run - DOUBLE ON THE DAY. Entry can be made online at www.rotaryruns.co.uk or by requesting forms from The Caterham and District Independent on 01883 346641, by email to rotaryruns@gmail.com, or by mail to 'RotaryRuns', 11a Queens Park Road, Caterham, Surrey CR3 5RB.

YOUR CATERHAM VALLEY PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Jenny Gaffney 07813 846683
Cllr. Peter Roberts 01883 344031
Cllr. Cherie Callender 07956 280485
Cllr. Yvonne Gomes 07946 309995
Cllr. Alun Jones 07598 335334
Cllr. Della Simpson-Shipway 07881 912131

Parish Councillors can be contacted by email on firstname.surname@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk

Caterham Valley Parish Council meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in Soper Hall, Harestone Valley Road, Caterham, CR3 6HY. The agenda is posted at Marden Lodge School on Croydon Road, Soper Hall on Harestone Valley Road and St John’s School on Markfield Road as well as on the Parish Council website. Residents may participate for a period of up to, but no longer than 15 minutes, where the Parish Council will hear questions or statements from members of the public. Individuals are allowed to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to speak at any of the meetings.

CONTACT CATERHAM VALLEY PARISH COUNCILLORS

Via the Parish Clerk – Mrs Maureen Gibbins
Email: clerk@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk / Tel: 07510 226989

www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk