



Serving our Community

A Message from the Chairman

Since the new Valley Parish Council first met in May we have been very busy. On the Planning Front we have had to comment on some very complicated applications and new ones are in the pipeline which will require quite intensive scrutiny. The Planning Committee consists of Alun Jones as Chair and Sakina Bradbury as Vice Chair, with Annette Evans and myself together with co-opted members of Deborah and Peter Brent and Caroline Hollins. We are concerned about the impact of what is known as “permitted development” in the Valley. This is where former offices are being turned into residential accommodation, with issues arising for the amenity of those who will live in the new properties, which in some cases possess accommodation which may not be up to modern standards offered. In addition, the new residents will want to have cars and the space for these is lacking. We are also concerned about the enforcement of conditions once the Applications are granted. It is interesting how some applicants do “stretch” the boundaries when they come to build. Fortunately, Tandridge has now increased the size of its enforcement team and we are looking forward to seeing if they can have an impact where people are doing their own thing, once they receive planning permission.

Concerning other projects we are involved with:

- We are pushing forward with plans for a crossing between Clareville Road and the Miller Centre, which can be a very dangerous crossing point.
- We have engaged our own Street Cleaner who you will be seeing in the Valley in his new uniform and his barrow.
- We are also going to trial CCTV in the Valley which we hope will contribute to residents’ feelings of safety when they are out and about.

Finally, I would add that all Parish Councillors are volunteers. We do the work because we want to try and contribute to making our community a better place to live in. We have plenty of opportunities for anyone who wishes to volunteer. So, if you are interested feel free to get in touch with myself or the Clerk to the Parish and we will free up time for some conversations.

Cllr Jeremy Webster



Westway Community Centre

The Parish Council is delighted to be able to provide substantial funding to the Westway Community Centre.

The Centre is now getting back to normal and opening its doors again for regular activities. Men in Sheds, Podiatry, and Hairdressing are all available.

There’s live entertainment, exercise classes, flower arranging, a new bereavement group as well as meetings of community groups for all ages. The outreach support and welfare fund to help families or individuals with various issues is up and running, as is Meals on Wheels.

For details of the current program or more information about a particular service check out the website www.thewestway.org, email info@thewestway.org or telephone 01883 347230. If you would like to get more involved, Westway are always looking for all sorts of support, please do get in touch.

September 2021

Christmas Market and Lights Turn on

The Christmas market and switch on of the Christmas lights by Father Christmas will take place on Saturday 27th November 2021 in association with Church Walk Shopping Centre and the Soper Hall Christmas Fair. Croydon Road will be closed from the slip road by Magnet Kitchens to, but not including, the roundabout at the Square in the Valley. All Parking Bays will be suspended from 0600 to 1930. Parking will be provided free of charge by Morrisons, Croudace Homes and on the ground and first floors at Waitrose. A shuttle bus service will run from Wapses Lodge roundabout to Magnet Kitchens. Contact clerk@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk with any questions regarding the event.



Vice Chairman Sakina Bradbury writes:

I live near St John's School and have felt the area needs some smartening up. So, I am talking to my colleagues about what might be possible- for example: flower boxes or hanging baskets and will report back on what might be feasible after further discussions. I would also like to have a much more welcoming sign to those who enter Caterham from the by-pass. The present sign is good but perhaps we need something more prominent. Finally, you will know that the Valley Parish is backing initiatives to make the Valley a much more pleasant place to visit and shop. I note a really excellent shopfront has been created in Godstone Road. We should encourage other shops to do similar. I have asked the Parish to consider putting a notice board in a more prominent place in the Valley to tell people about our activities.

Finally, one thing I do think a lot about is how the Community needs more volunteers. We are already planning our Christmas Fair for the end of November, and it would be great to have more people to help us run this. Please contact me directly you want to help-07719 904449.

Cllr Sakina Bradbury

Rotary Clock

The Rotary Clock, so called because it was erected to celebrate the long running charitable work that the Rotary Clubs do for the Town, situated on the Valley Roundabout has not functioned for some time. It was switched on in 2005 but suffered malfunctions, probably related to vandalism. A small team has worked with the designer of the clock, Gillett and Johnston, based in Edenbridge, to arrange for a modified mechanism to be fitted and for the Parish Council to take on responsibility for the Clock from the Rotary Clubs in Caterham. The Parish will assure continuing maintenance. It will still be a four face clock but modifications will entail replacing the current electric drive units, one behind each face, with a different system allowing direct linkage centrally driven by a unit that can now be placed at the centre of the clock because there will be no need to have a pole passing through it. The cost will be partly defrayed by voluntary contributions.

Cllr Jeremy Webster & Cllr Yvonne Gomes



September 2021

Help us promote The Surrey Nature Explorer Passport

Surrey County Council has launched an exciting free activity for families with children aged 4 to 12! The Surrey Nature Explorer Passport holds captivating adventures that encourages families and children to explore our beautiful countryside and amazing libraries with a chance to win exciting prizes. Designed to offer a fun way for children to discover the uniqueness of Surrey's countryside and learn more about nature's wonders, the activity runs from mid-July until October, giving families ideas and inspiration for days out during the summer holidays.

The campaign provides a creative offering for children that enables them to learn about nature in a fun and educational way, furthering their wellbeing and addressing the negative impact the pandemic had on their lives. It encourages children to go on nature-related adventures while also asking them to write, draw, or video about their activities.

The Surrey Nature Explorer Passport can be collected for free from any of Surrey's 52 libraries and will help children to keep track of their adventures as they collect stickers for completing up to 15 fun nature-related challenges. More information can be found on the website.

We would appreciate if you could spread the word about the initiative and encourage families to take part! We want children to have a fun summer whilst boosting their wellbeing and getting them to engage with nature.

Below you will find a toolkit to promote The Surrey Nature Explorer via your channels.

PS. Don't forget to let us know if you are taking part yourself and share pictures using #SurreyExplorer.

Help us promote The Surrey Nature Explorer

To increase awareness and engagement with this campaign we would appreciate your help with:

- Promoting The Surrey Nature Explorer Passport through social media, community newsletters, etc. using the attached assets
- Sharing your own posts with the assets and suggested copy lines, using #SurreyExplorer
- Sharing with residents your favourite outdoor places in Surrey
- Putting out a press release/article in support
- Liking The Surrey Nature Explorer posts
- Talking to contacts, colleagues, and constituents about The Surrey Nature Explorer For further information, please contact: Malin.Joneleit@surreycc.gov.uk.

Keeping Caterham Clean – Cllr Alun Jones

Following a long process to recruit, the Parish Council is now in a position to appoint a street cleaner who will cover the Caterham Valley and Harestone area.

Currently roads in and around Caterham are on 8 - 12 week cleaning schedules supplemented by hard work from volunteers, but this is not enough. We are seeing increased littering and fly tipping and this needs to be dealt with more swiftly. The recruitment of a dedicated person for Caterham Valley will supplement the existing street cleaning we have in the local area. Caterham Valley Parish Council is the first Parish Council in Tandridge to recruit a dedicated role and we hope that residents will notice the difference. The role will be in place from 1st September

Residents are also being urged to contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk if you want to join our litter angels scheme, where we can provide you with a litter picker and bags. If we can get a lot of people to do a little bit, we can make a big change to how our area looks.



Planning

Planning can certainly be one of the most contentious areas that the Parish Council can get involved in. It is our duty to listen to our residents' concerns on local applications. We meet regularly to discuss current applications and give our joint considered view to Tandridge District Council. We must avoid bias, predetermination and non-planning matters when detailing our stance on any application.

We have a right to be consulted, but we cannot determine applications. This is done mostly by officers of Tandridge District Council. If, however, we detail a strong objection to an application that requires full planning permission, then the application will be determined by the District Planning Committee where the Parish Council have the right to attend and speak.

As representatives of the local community, we are also able to engage with developers prior to any formal application, allowing developers to understand any concerns residents may have and if possible, mitigate for them. The proposed Aldi store by Wapses Lodge is an example of this.

We are delighted that the Neighbourhood Plan has now been 'made' (accepted). This gives us more opportunity to protect aspects of our Parish as well as entitle us to a higher proportion of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that developers are liable to pay on larger developments. We are looking forward to be able to direct this towards improvements in the Town Centre.

The Planning sub-committee meets every 3 weeks to discuss applications within the Parish. The clerk of the council publishes details of the meeting and the agenda on our 3 noticeboards, by Soper Hall, St John's school, and Marden Lodge school as well as on our website www.caterhamvalleypc.org.uk.

Cllr Annette Evans

Round Table Fireworks

The Caterham & District Round Table annual bonfire and firework display will take place on Saturday 6th November at the Dene Hospital field.

The fire will be lit after 19:00 followed by the Fireworks display. For details and discounted online tickets go to

www.caterhamroundtable.co.uk.

Cedar Tree Lights Turn On

The Cedar Tree lights will be switched on at 18:30 on Sunday 28th November in the High Street in front of the Cedar Tree.

Free mince pies and mulled wine will be available and carols will be sung by local schools with Father Christmas switching on the lights.



Yvonne Gomes 07946 309995	Victor Emmanuel 07733 785822	Annette Evans 07709 911298	Alun Jones 07598 335334	Jeremy Webster 07725 818629	Sakina Bradbury 07719 904449
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Contact Parish Councillors by email on cldr.firstname.surname@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk.

The Parish Council meets monthly on the second Wednesday monthly at 7.00pm in Caterham Valley Library, Stafford Road, CR3 6JG.



CONTACT THE CATERHAM VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL CLERK
Mrs Maureen Gibbins - Email: clerk@caterhamvalleypc.org.uk / Tel: 07510 226989