

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Newsletter of Tattenham & Preston Residents



Spring 2020

www.tattenhamra.org.uk

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**THE AGM OF THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD AT
TATTENHAM CORNER LIBRARY, TATTENHAM CRESCENT
ON TUESDAY 24th MARCH 2020 AT 7:30 PM**

AGENDA

1. Welcome

2.

**GUEST SPEAKER
DANIEL ELKELES, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, EPSOM ST HELIER HOSPITALS
PRESENTATION ON NEW HOSPITAL PROPOSALS
WITH QUESTIONS AND ANSWER SESSION**

Break for Refreshments

3. Residents Association Chair's report

4. Approval of minutes from the last Annual General Meeting

5. Treasurer's report

6. Election of the R A Committee

NB: The Chair, Rue Stanley - Cherrycroft, Tattenham Crescent would be pleased to receive nominations to the Committee

7. Adoption of the Association's Borough Council election candidate for the May election

8. Councillors reports: Jill Bray, Bob Harper and Nick Harrison, including question and answer session

9. Any other business

ALL RESIDENTS OF TATTENHAM CORNER & PRESTON AND NORK WARDS WELCOME. NON-RESIDENTS BY INVITATION ONLY.

TATTENHAM CORNER & PRESTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The R A represents residents living in the Tattenham Corner & Preston Ward of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. It is a non party-political organisation that aims to preserve and improve amenities in the area and seeks to foster good local government by a close liaison with local authorities and other public bodies, including election of its own councillors.

Our local councillors work as a group with councillors sponsored by Nork Residents Association at the Borough Council, and with Residents Association and independent councillors across Surrey at the County Council.

Any resident wishing the R A to take up questions concerning local matters or interests should email, phone or write to a Councillor or a Committee Member.

This edition of our newsletter is distributed to all households in the ward prior to our AGM. If you would like to join the Association, please contact us – see last page for details.

FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Resident

A Personal Reflection

Thank you for all your support of the Association in the last year. I am glad to report that despite the boundary changes in 2019 (Tattenhams & Preston now combined) that all three R A councillors were re-elected with very good majorities.

In the last year, the Association has increased delivery of newsletters from 2,500 to over 4,000 per issue and nearly all properties in the ward receive one. We have changed from printing on green paper, to colour on white which is easier to read and provides more opportunity to include photographs. We have also reduced our printing costs significantly because we have changed to an online printing company.

Thank you to our volunteers who have worked hard to collect subscriptions this year and deliver newsletters. This year subscriptions income has increased. Welcome to our new road stewards in Tattenhams and Preston, I look forward to meeting you at the AGM on the 24th March.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new committee members - John Smith, Asad Jamil and Mark Sparling. At the AGM in March, I will be standing down from the committee, having enjoyed working for the Association for the last five years. I have decided in the future I would like to spend more time producing and exhibiting my art works.

I am especially pleased to be handing over the chairmanship to Kathryn Chattle who has extensive knowledge of the RA having already served on the committee twice. If you are interested in finding out more and joining us, please come to the AGM on the 24th March.

Threat to Library Removed!

In our last newsletter we reported on the county council budget cuts and the potential closure of a number of the smaller libraries outside of the main town centres, such as Tattenhams. The 10 fully volunteer-run libraries such as Tattenhams are highly regarded, and we have all lobbied for their continuance. So much so, that all are to be retained – there will be no closures. The Council is trying to use more volunteers in the rest of the network, to balance the books.



Roads Resurfacing



We are expecting the resurfacing of the roadway and pavements in **Chetwode Road** to start in the “early summer”. This includes some upgrading of parking arrangements. This winter’s rain has caused a lot of problems, with the deluge causing potholes to accelerate. The budgets are very limited and controlled centrally - little money is directed at some of the worst residential roads and cul de sacs,



Exceptions this year are **Merland Green** and **Chapel Grove**, the latter road has been on the repair list for 10 years!

For those of you who are keen on statistics, the spend in county councils like Surrey is only one third of the spending in London and the major cities. We are the poor relations, yet our traffic volumes in areas like ours, right next to London, is just about the same. Surrey is calling for a fairer and proportionate share of the government’s £2 billion pothole fund.

Budgets and Council Tax

Governments of all shades have failed to get to grips with the funding of social care, but have encouraged councils to put up council tax by 4%, well above inflation. Residents Association councillors at the County did not support the substantial cuts to special education needs (SEN) budgets in schools. At the Borough, your local R A councillors did not support the growth in council staff, which they felt was unwarranted, and will require the use of reserves.

Mrs Rue Stanley

EPSOM HOSPITAL – WHAT NEXT?

Money is Available (hopefully)

Alternatives for developing Epsom Hospital or moving the services elsewhere has been debated for over 20 years. None have reached a conclusion for also sorts of reason, not least because money didn't ever appear to be available. This may have changed when Boris Johnson announced potential funding for 40 major hospital projects, one of these being our hospital – up to £500 million has now been earmarked for Epsom St Helier.



Why does Epsom St Helier Need to Change?

The NHS say that they do not have enough specialist doctors, nurses and clinical services for some of the most important emergency services, and provide the right **quality** of care. Many of the **buildings** are older than the NHS itself, and over half unsuitable for treating patients to modern healthcare standards. On **finance**, a huge amount of money is spent on temporary staff, and in patching and mending.

The Proposal

The NHS wants to improve the current buildings at both Epsom and St Helier hospitals as well as build a new specialist emergency care hospital at Epsom, St Helier or Sutton.

- **District hospitals at both Epsom and St Helier:** The majority of services (2,200 out of 3,000 patients each day) would stay at both hospitals in refurbished buildings. Both would provide what are described as 'district hospital' services 24 hours a day, and both would have **urgent treatment centres**. On top of these urgent treatment centres, services would include **hospital rehabilitation, planned care procedures, outpatient and diagnostics**.
- **A specialist emergency care hospital built at one of Epsom, St Helier or Sutton:** Six major/ core services for the most unwell patients, those who need more specialist care, and births in hospital would be brought onto one site in new state-of-the-art buildings. So these services would be **a major emergency department, emergency surgery, acute medicine, critical care, births and impatient paediatrics or children's beds**.

Comparing the Sites for the New Specialist Emergency Care Hospital

We are all familiar with Epsom Hospital, and many will know St Helier. The Sutton site is just over into London, at the end of the 'mad mile' A217. If this option were chosen, it would be co-located with the Royal Marsden Hospital which has a world-wide reputation for cancer care; improving care for Epsom and St Helier patients.

In comparing the three choices, the NHS argue that the quality of care would be the same in all three, and fit in with the NHS Long Term Plan. All would have urgent treatment centres.

The differences between the three options are:

Criteria	Sutton	St Helier	Epsom
Long-term clinical sustainability	Least overall effect on travel for older people and people from deprived communities	Greatest effect on travel for older people and least effect on travel for people from deprived communities	Least effect on travel for older people and greatest effect on travel for people from deprived communities
Impact on travel and access	Smallest increase in average travel time	Second greatest increase in average travel time	Greatest increase in average travel times
How easy is it to deliver?	Easiest to deliver	More complicated to build	More complicated to build
Finance	Best value for the taxpayer	Medium value for the taxpayer	Least value for the tax payer

What do YOU think?

The NHS tell us they have issued a consultation leaflet to all homes in our area – but we are aware that many have not received it. If you do want to know more come to the Residents Association meeting, specifically aimed for residents from Tattenham Corner and Preston ward, plus those from Nork – 7:30pm on Tuesday 24th March at the Library.

Consultation documents are available at www.improvinghealthcaretogether.org.uk and the consultation questionnaire can also be accessed there too. The consultation ends on 1 April.

PHOENIX YOUTH CENTRE

Will it Rise from the Ashes?

One of the Residents Association's commitments has been to oppose the closure of the Phoenix Youth Centre, next to the Leisure Centre. For the last couple of years youth work at the Centre has declined and it was closed many more evenings than it was open. Youth workers became disillusioned with the lack of direction and left without being replaced. The Council is focusing its attention at "targeted"/ "specialised" support to young people in care or in trouble of various kinds, or "early help" to those on the verge of difficulties.



Empty Buildings

This leaves the question of what to do with the buildings. Resident Association councillors began a questioning campaign at every council meeting, (supported by backbenchers across the chamber) asking about their future. The Council Leader eventually declared the buildings would be available to voluntary and community groups for youth activities at "little or no cost".

Consultation

All of this is subject to formal consultation with the public, and we ask that as many residents as possible respond to the consultation which can be found on the County Council's website at www.surreysays.co.uk/csf/universal-youth-work-proposal

The consultation runs until the end of April, so please log on and respond.

Alongside this the Council is speaking to local organisations for expressions of interest to provide general youth work at the Centre.

The MYTI Club

In the interim, since the summer, a new local organisation, the MYTI Club has taken up the baton, running a youth club on Fridays during term time - 3pm to 6pm, and school holidays - 10am to 4pm.

The club is managed by local volunteers and employs 3 youth work professionals who work alongside the volunteers to ensure a cohort of 8 to 14 year olds are engaged in positive activities.

The Club needs support from local people and businesses to sustain its very positive start, and now has over 150 members signed up. MYTI attracts 60 plus young people in term time and is looking for volunteers to help with a range of activities.

People who could help with arts, drama and music would be particularly welcome as MYTI is looking for young people to perform at Tadfest in September. MYTI is also looking for trustees to help with an application to become a charity and assist with fundraising. Anyone interested can contact Steve Boeje on 07828 - 123300.



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EASTER AT ST MARKS

Easter or Oestre is thought by some to predate the Christian celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus. Recent scholarly work has thrown some doubt on that and it has been suggested that Oestre or the pagan celebration of Spring may actually be a response to the Christian celebration in post Roman Britain rather than its forerunner. Whichever came first hardly seems relevant now as modern Easter celebrates both the Christian festival and Spring, as crosses are seen surrounded by chicks and eggs and bunnies go hand in hand.

Palm Sunday is 5th April and again we celebrate at 10am with a boisterous all age service with communion - offers of a donkey for the parade appreciated! (contact Rev Des on 353011).

Maundy Thursday will be a reflective thoughtful evening meal at 7pm on 9th April and **Good Friday** sees a contrast of styles with Messy Easter at 10am til noon looking at the whole Easter story followed by a quiet reflective service at 2-3pm.

On **Holy Saturday** we have a candle lighting and procession from 7-8.30pm with an Easter egg hunt and bouncy castle in the Vicarage garden and on **Easter Day** we have a joyous celebration with communion for everyone at 10am. When I say everyone that is what I mean - everyone is welcome!

OUR LOCAL CITIZENS ADVICE



Last year Citizens Advice Reigate & Banstead (CARBS) celebrated 80 years of helping local residents in Reigate. Since 1939 we've been extending our services to more local communities including our latest initiative in Tattenhams, Preston and Tadworth.

Importantly, we also offer advice on the phone, through email and webchat, and online.

Our purpose is to give free, independent and impartial advice to anyone who asks, whoever they are, whatever their problem.

How to find us

Our local drop-in advice sessions are held at Merland Rise Church on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays each month 0930-1230.

No appointment needed.

How it works

On a first visit or contact, you discuss the problem with our adviser who makes an initial assessment. Then you decide on a way forward together, or the adviser will make an appointment to discuss the problem in more detail.

Advisers have access to the latest information. They research the options for your individual situation. They won't tell you what to do, but help you make the best decision for you. And they will always be pleased to see you again to review how things are going.

Problems

A bit like GPs in health services, our advisers are trained to help with virtually any problem. However hard or depressing there is ALWAYS a way forward. Some common problems are:

- **Debts** and family budgets
- **Benefits** including Universal Credit
- **Relationships** including family breakdowns and domestic abuse
- **Work** and employment including pay, bullying, discrimination
- **Health** including mental health, dementia and disabilities.

Drop-In Advice
Merland Rise Church
First and Third Tuesdays
Each Month 09:30-12:30
No Appointment

A local charity

CARBS is a truly local charity. We're a member of national Citizens Advice but all our funding is local. We're grateful to Reigate & Banstead Borough Council for their support but have to raise extra funds to continue our free service.

Our 60 skilled and trained advisers are all local volunteers. They make the service possible by giving their time and energy to help their neighbours. If you or someone you know would like to train as a volunteer adviser we would love to hear from you – contact info@www.carbs.org.uk

For details about our other centres, phone and online services, go to www.carbs.org.uk/get-advice/
You can also hear about our local activity and social policy work on Twitter @ReigateandBCAB.

Worried about your Family's Health and Weight?

If you have a child under 12 who is overweight and has a disability or learning difficulty, **or** you're on a low income, a new service at Epsom Downs Family Centre may be for you. **'Be Your Best'** is the name of the programme.

Comprising local or home visits from specialist nurses, along with group workshops covering issues from food labelling to screen time, **Be Your Best** aims to help parents improve their family's health. Completely free, mums and dads who want to help their child be *their* best can find out more by visiting www.BYBSurrey.org, or calling 01483 517005.

Excess weight in children can mean more than just physical problems at school; it can lead to anxiety and harm self-confidence, as well as increasing the risk of serious diseases. From being unknown 20 years ago, Type 2 diabetes in children (usually associated with weight) rose 50% in just five years. Acting when children are young can help build healthy habits for life so visit www.BYBSurrey.org to learn more.

TATTENHAM AND PRESTON RESIDENTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST DECEMBER 2019

<u>2018</u>	INCOME	<u>2019</u>
2,092	Subscriptions	2,112
90	Advertising Revenue	635
1,020	Grant Funding	Nil
175	Donations	60
Nil	Raffle Profit	75
3	Bank Interest	3
£3,380		£2,885
	EXPENDITURE	
25	Electoral Commission Registration Fee	75
1,258	Newsletters/AGM Notice	821
402	Computer Consumables and Licences	315
294	Hire of Library / Hall	290
207	Election Expenses	455
36	Campaign for Protection of Rural England Fee	36
25	Banstead Federation of Residents Associations	25
20	East Surrey Transport Committee	20
50	Music in the Park	Nil
Nil	Tattenham Corner Gardening	178
25	Charitable Donations	(25)
304	New Dedicated Computer	Nil
63	Printing, Stationery and Supplies	78
81	Postage and Sundries	82
£2,790		£2,350
£590	SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	£535

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2019

ASSETS		
6,634	Cash at Bank	
773	in Deposit account	6,197
Nil	in Current account (less unrepresented cheque)	1,745
	Cash in Hand	Nil
£7,407		£7,942
FUNDS		
6,817	Income and Expenditure Account	
590	Balance as at 31 Dec 2017	
	Plus: Surplus for year to 31 Dec 2018	7,407
	Plus: Surplus for year to 31 Dec 2019	535
£7,407		£7,942

R Mantle
Hon Treasurer