



# Woodmansterne Green Belt and Residents' Association Autumn 2018 Newsletter

Website: [www.woodmansterneresidents.com](http://www.woodmansterneresidents.com)

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## Welcome to the Autumn newsletter

It has been a busy year for the committee with a number of new and ongoing issues on the agenda. The most exciting news being the final decision made by the Boundary Commission (BC) on the ward structure of the borough of Reigate and Banstead and indeed in the whole of England. There will be a total of 15 wards (there are currently 19) each with 3 councillors. This will be a reduction of 6 councillors overall.

Eighty residents as well as WGBRA responded to the proposals which would have left Woodmansterne cut in half resulting in fragmenting of the community and its representation. The BC took our comments into consideration and have redrawn the boundary to put Woodmansterne together with Chipstead and Kingswood. The northern and eastern boundaries are determined by the London Boroughs of Sutton and Croydon; the southern boundary will merge into Chipstead and the eastern boundary runs from Lower Park Road north eastwards along Puckstead and Beckens Shaw to cross Woodmansterne Lane at Boundary Farm. Croydon Lane and roads leading off i.e. South Drive, Lipsham Close and Fairlawn Grove will fall in the Banstead ward. Our ward will be named Chipstead, Kingswood and Woodmansterne. To see the document published by the BC go to the link on the WGBRA website. This legislation will go through parliament in November and will come into effect next May when the council elections take place. Well done to everyone who contributed to this favourable outcome.

In June, Darren Williams, Deputy Development Manager of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council, attended our meeting to talk about the SES water landscaping of the lagoon site to the east of Rectory Lane. This has been a protracted project including the registering of footpaths around this site. The landscaping scheme will have to be granted planning permission before it goes ahead but there a number of contentious issues raised by local residents. The footpath to the south of the site was close to registration in the summer but will go to a public inquiry due to objections by adjoining land owners. Another visitor to the committee, in July, was DI Michael Hodder, Operations East Surrey Division, who came to hear views on local policing particularly around anti-social behaviour and has promised some action in this matter.

On a separate occasion the Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey, David Munro, met with representatives of WGBRA and local councillors. He is keen to improve local policing but of course there are budget constraints. One of his concerns is unauthorised traveller encampments and the lack of transit sites in Surrey. To find out more about his work go to [www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.surrey-pcc.gov.uk).

The Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Development Management Plan enters its next stage at the end of October when it will be independently examined before being published. Woodmansterne itself is largely unchanged by this but there are some unpopular suggestions for Banstead. For example: building on the car park in the Horseshoe, also replacing the community hall in Park Road and reducing the parking by building 15 flats on the site. These proposals and others are being contested by the local federation of residents associations.

### The Woodchips win an award

In July the WoodChip Conservation Volunteers received the Forestry Commission's Community Woodlands Award which is for woodland planting and management projects that have been inspired, driven and delivered by local community groups. The WoodChips were presented with their award by Baroness Young of the Woodland Trust. This prestigious award was for their work in Banstead Woods and was nominated by Vincent Delacovo of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council. Andy Keay wishes to thank everyone for their support of the WoodChips and especially the hard work and commitment of the volunteers resulting in this deserved success. Anyone wishing to join in with the WoodChips' activities in the local area can contact them by email: [woodchips1@btinternet.com](mailto:woodchips1@btinternet.com).



### Village Hall 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration

In September the Village Hall celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by holding a tea party. There were representatives from all the groups that currently use the hall and a display telling the story of how the hall came into being.

*"The first Woodmansterne Village Hall was located on the edge of the cricket green behind the houses in Chipstead Way in 1931 but became dilapidated by 1967 and was pulled down. Fundraising for a new hall soon started and by 1977, with the help of grants from the local and county councils and central government, work began on the new hall. A leading light in the fundraising was Mrs Joyce Lowther (see photo below).*

*It was officially opened on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1978, the ceremony being performed by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Frank Hutchinson. Extensions and improvements, such as a new floor, lighting and a patio area have been made over the years. A major extension providing the Lowther Room, new toilets, cloakroom, cupboard and lobby was carried out. The last extension in 2010 was the store along the rear wall. In 2013 a new kitchen was installed.*

*For many years the hall has provided the first 'refreshment stop' on the British Heart Foundation's London to Brighton bike ride. Among the activities currently being held in the hall are badminton, line dancing, short mat bowls, martial arts, dog club, pre-school group, yoga, WI and sewing groups.*

*The hall is a registered charity and is run by a committee of unpaid volunteers. If you would like to be involved please contact the Secretary by email: [wvh@outlook.com](mailto:wvh@outlook.com).*

*For bookings telephone: 01737 851313."*



### **Lakers Rise Play Area Refurbishment**

In consultation with the WGBRA committee and local residents, the local council replaced the equipment in the Lakers Rise play area. The work was carried out in September and is now up and running. It has received a thumbs up from users.



### **Community Fund**

Most of the funding from the Councillors was used for replacement benches next to Soloms and Scratch Wood and for refurbishment of noticeboards. However some funds still remain for which we would welcome ideas of how to best use them.

Please email your suggestions to [wgbra@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wgbra@hotmail.co.uk).

### **Planning Applications**

Most local planning applications involve individuals extending their properties upwards and outwards. However there have been a few of interest. Two have recently been passed on appeal having originally been turned down by the local council: a retirement complex at the junction of Outwood Lane and Chipstead Way, proposed by McCarthy Stone and an additional two pitches in the lower travellers site in Rectory Lane.

The stationing of a mobile home at Arlington Stables in Woodmansterne Lane has applied for retrospective permission which is still undecided to date. A back garden development in Chipstead Way has had two applications refused so far.

Details of all planning applications can be seen in the Planning section of the council website: [www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk](http://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk).

The London Borough of Sutton intend to double the size of their traveller site in Carshalton Road by removing the Green Belt designation covering the site boundary. This can be viewed at [www.sutton.gov.uk/localplanexamination](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/localplanexamination).

### Joint Enforcement Team

To report abandoned vehicles, anti-social behaviour, fly tipping, graffiti, litter, dog fouling etc please contact the Joint Enforcement Team (JET) online at [www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/report](http://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/report) or telephone 01737 276300.

### WGBRA CONTACTS

The Woodmansterne Green Belt and Residents Association (WGBRA) website can be found at [www.woodmansternereresidents.com](http://www.woodmansternereresidents.com).

Email us at [wgbra@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wgbra@hotmail.co.uk).

Follow us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WGBRA](http://www.facebook.com/WGBRA)

### Road Stewards and Subscriptions

The road stewards do an excellent job delivering the newsletters in the Spring and Autumn and also collecting subs in the Spring which mostly goes towards hiring the Village Hall, paying for the website and printing the newsletters. We are currently looking for stewards to cover Woodmansterne Lane and the even numbers of Lakers Rise. If you would be able to help with this please contact us at [wgbra@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wgbra@hotmail.co.uk).

Many thanks to all of you who have paid your subs (£2) but it's not too late. If you would like to pay online the bank account number is 17645609, sort code 23-05-80, please quote the first line of your address as a reference. You could also pay at The Look In, direct to your road steward or to the Treasurer at 13 Prestbury Crescent.

### Councillors contact details

Keith Foreman [cllr.foreman@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.foreman@reigate-banstead.gov.uk) ) Reigate & Banstead Borough Council

Tim Archer [cllr.archer@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.archer@reigate-banstead.gov.uk) ) for Chipstead, Hooley and

John Stephenson [cllr.stephenson@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.stephenson@reigate-banstead.gov.uk) ) Woodmansterne Ward

Telephone Reigate and Banstead Borough Council on 01737 276000

Ken Gulati [ken.gulati@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:ken.gulati@surreycc.gov.uk) ) Surrey County Council

Telephone Surrey County Council on 0345 600 9009

Generally local issues such as payments, recycling, planning, council tax, benefits and elections are covered by the Borough Council but matters such as highways and schools are Surrey County Council's responsibility.

### Member of Parliament

#### Crispin Blunt MP

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