

The WEYBRIDGE NEWS



NEWS FROM YOUR WEYBRIDGE AND ST GEORGE'S HILL CONSERVATIVES | AUTUMN 2020



Hello, I'm Charu Sood, Conservative councillor for Weybridge St George's Hill and I would like to welcome you to our latest newsletter.

The current times are unprecedented but I am proud of how our community has pulled together to support each other and the most vulnerable.

Adapting to the new normal has been difficult and has demanded sacrifices. Thank you for following the rules and playing your part in halting the spread of this virus.

Clearly we are in another critical phase so please continue to take every precaution and follow the advice to keep yourselves and your loved ones safe over the winter and festive months.

Since the lockdown I have been involved in a number of great community initiatives. I have been helping the Elmbridge and Runnymede foodbanks with their deliveries and sewing PPE and facemasks for key workers, in addition to fundraising for the Your Sanctuary local charity and the foodbank.

The open spaces, parks and communal areas in and around Weybridge have been a real lifeline these past months.

Unfortunately, there have been instances of antisocial behaviour and littering. I worked with the local shops and Weybridge Cricket Club to make sure the message of keeping our parks and spaces clean is displayed and shared widely.

Finally, as the founder of Weybridge in Bloom, I thought it was important to

Community spirit sees us through Covid crisis

ensure this community group continued its activities as normal over the summer to spread a little cheer. So we once again ran the annual Flowerbed and Sunflower competition, planting the wildflower meadow, setting up new planters and running litter picking events.



NEWS IN BRIEF

Clive House, Queens Road 2018/2252 and 2019/2286 both the appeals refused. The inspector dismissed the appeals. She agreed with councillors' reasons to reject the applications and made particular reference to the effect on the adjacent Salisbury house.

85, Queens road 2020/026, 0473 and 1288 refused on the basis of parking stress, overall impact on street scene and character of the area.

Hill view Nursery, Seven Hill road 2019/3370 – Granted as a Dementia nursing home operated by a Charity

Pavement Licences: As the economy reopens post the covid19 lockdown the government has announced a further and urgent relaxation to planning and licensing loss to help the hospitality industry recover by removing some requirements and expediting others. The business and planning (act 2020) makes it easier for premises such as bar, restaurant and pubs to serve food and drink to customers outdoors.

Manjit made an MBE in Queen's birthday Honours

Manjit Gill, the Conservative candidate for Weybridge Riverside at next year's Elmbridge elections was made an MBE by the Queen in October.

The accolade was in recognition of her work with Binti International, the charity she founded which is headquartered in Weybridge. It delivered around 16,600 meals since COVID started to food banks, homeless charities and communal kitchens.

Manjit also set up four local sewing clubs with over 50 women making face masks, period bags and aprons.

During this time, Whiteley Village residents who took part stayed connected through their love of sewing, and the focus of being an integral part of the club helped the women counteract feelings of isolation.

Huge congratulations Manjit!

David Harvey is hoping to secure the support of voters in the Weybridge St George's ward next May.

He has been a Weybridge resident for 12 years and is very passionate about serving the community.

David has a strong background of over 20 years' experience in the Service and Property



sectors. He will bring clear thinking, energy and problem solving to the role of Councillor. Areas of special importance to David are enhancing local leisure provision, regenerating our High Street, protecting the Green Belt and ensuring that new development is sympathetic to the character of Weybridge.

Local Conservatives are the only party to pledge that there will be no development on the Green Belt, something which the Liberal Democrat and Residents Association coalition running the Council has chosen not to do with the failure to agree on a local plan. David grew up in Cobham and has an instinctive understanding of Elmbridge, he enjoys the committed support of his wife and two sons.



PCC candidate Charlie will fight for more visible policing



CHARLIE Chirico is the Conservative Candidate in next year's Surrey Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

Charlie says: "I am determined to get the best service for local residents. It is important that our Elmbridge is safe and visibly policed, and residents feel safe. Too many

people tell me that they rarely see a police officer and that low level offences are going unchecked. This will not be the case under my watch."

With effective Conservative leadership, Surrey Police has the potential to be one of the best forces in the country and we must strive towards excellence.

To keep up with Charlie's campaign, visit www.charliechirico.org.uk

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TRIAL DAYS:

Wednesday 19th February: 12pm - 4pm
Monday 16th March: 5pm - 7pm
Wednesday 15th April: 12pm - 4pm
Monday 4th May: 5pm - 7pm
Wednesday 3rd June: 5pm - 7pm
Monday 29th June: 5pm - 7pm
Thursday 30th July: 3pm - 5pm

Boys & Girls Ages 16 - 24

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Academy Director Kelly-Jade Whelan | 07929131898 | academy@waltoncasuals.co.uk

Xcel Sports Hub, Waterside Drive, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2JP



Around Weybridge... with Tim Oliver

Your County Councillor for Weybridge and Leader of Surrey County Council

Our roads and pavements

When I was elected I pledged to do something about the roads into and around Weybridge. In particular, the poor state of Seven Hills Rd and Queens Road. Not only have these been resurfaced but we now have new surfaces on Oatlands Drive, Monument Hill, the High Street as well as a number of residential streets. There has also been extensive pavement improvements particularly to the north of the high street. I will of course continue to lobby for more funds to upgrade its many roads as possible and try to ensure that the roads are damaged by utility companies digging them up!

Cycling and walking

The new pathway from Brooklands to the town centre has not only encouraged more residents to walk and cycle and has also made it much safer particularly along Heath Road. The national pandemic has seen more of us enjoy our local surroundings with walks in the countryside and along the stretch of River Thames through the town centre. The more we can get out of our cars the better for our health and wellbeing and the better for our environment. There is a significant programme of investment by Surrey county council to upgrade our footpaths and more of us think about splitting our working week between commuting and working locally.

Local democracy

There is no doubting that Covid 19 has had a huge impact on all of our lives, and quite probably for the long term. But if anything it has made us realise just what is important to us, our families, our jobs and our local environment. Many residents have seen a different work-life balance with less commuting and particularly over the summer the opportunity to re engage with our amazing countryside. But it has also brought out the absolute best of our communities. It was incredible to see how neighbours and friends rallied around those needing support whether to help shopping, collecting prescriptions or just to have a chat. We need to build on that. That is why Surrey county council will be



engaging with communities over the coming months to encourage them to set up a series of community networks. These local networks will help identify exactly what people want to see happening in their localities including more control and say over local assets and services. We know that Surrey is a very diverse area and that the 25 natural communities that exist across the county ranging from semi urban to rural have different needs and aspirations. The county will continue to deliver the services that residents need to access including adult social care and services to our vulnerable children but this is a real opportunity for Weybridge residents to have their say as to what they want for Weybridge. This is an exciting development and one I very much hope all residents will engage with as more detail is shared in the coming weeks. The residents are Weybridge are rightly proud of their town. The improvement to the surfaces of the main routes into the town, the new cycle and walk way enabling people to leave their cars behind if they wish to and shortly the redevelopment of two sites in the town will have seen real investment in what is a fantastic place to live and work. We need to come together as a community to make our high street vibrant and sustainable but there has been some good progress and good engagement as we now move

forward with discussing what other improvements people want to see.

Our hospital and library

Weybridge Hospital and Library sites Tim Oliver has been leading the discussions within Surrey County Council and Surrey Heartlands Health system on the reprovion of medical facilities for the town centre following the disastrous fire as well as looking at plans to replacement the Library building. These two sites provide a one off opportunity to create a vibrant campus of activity including GP and medical services, a modern library, facilities for young people as well as community facilities and space for start-up businesses. Tim has been coordinating all of the key partners needed to support this plan and has ensured extensive consultation and involvement of the Weybridge Society, Weybridge business group and other potential users of the buildings.

He expects some option to go out to public consultation with the next few months and work to start on the rebuild in 2021.