

Hershams County Councillor Margaret Hicks on 'Getting Things Done' in Hershams. And there's a lot to report....

Moving Forward on Burwood Road Safety

We are making good progress in tackling this long running problem of speeding which residents have highlighted through their recent petition to the Elmbridge Local Committee.



I am delighted that through my intervention a comprehensive feasibility study will take place to assess which measures will be effective in reducing speed and improving pedestrian safety within the zone surrounding St. Peter's Church and Burwood Road junction with Queens Road. Among the propositions to be considered are a crossing, children school signs, and 20 mph along the stretch of road from Vaux Crescent.

This is a true example of local residents, your Hershams Conservative Councillors and County Councillor all working together for the common objective. We must all continue to press for action at the earliest opportunity.

Pothole Patrol: Thanks to my reporting of highway defects many Hershams roads have been resurfaced and I have nominated a further four for attention next year in a rolling programme.

A schedule of regular gully cleaning is now in place, and the street lighting contractor Skanska will soon be replacing more street lights in Hershams

Hershams Library Celebration: I was delighted to arrange a recent celebration evening at our Library to thank the

Friends of Hershams Library for making it a place enjoyed by young and old (in addition to providing a first

class and friendly service). This was the first of such events in Surrey and a certificate recognising all the support given by Hershams residents to our Library was presented.



Neighbourhood Watch: I have been appointed Area Coordinator for Hershams. Through the organised Watches we can make and keep our streets safe and keep an eye out for our neighbours.

PeterBus: Supported by our five Hershams Borough Councillors I have already begun representations with Surrey about a replacement service that will enable Hershams residents to travel to St. Peter's Hospital conveniently. The initial feedback is positive and I will keep you updated.

All Sound and....: For 24 years Margaret Hicks has conscientiously served Hershams and communicates back to you regularly. And the independent candidate? On his website he promises a "regular report" on his activities, but it is totally blank! Where does he stand on key issues for Hershams? Does he support improved road safety measures in Burwood Road?

Instead of irresponsible scaremongering about our Day Centre and Village Hall - both are totally safe under the Conservatives - why can't he make the effort to get things done for Hershams? But then empty vessels make the most sound.

Recycling

Did you know that you can now take unwanted small electrical items such as hairdryers, kettles and toasters to your local recycling bank in the New Berry Lane car park (Waitrose) in Hershams?

The CLOTHES + COLLECTION service has proved to be fantastically popular. This is a charitable collection service the Council is running in partnership with the British Heart Foundation. During the first 4-week period in January nearly 22 tonnes of clothes were donated and a further 2 rounds of collections will be in June and September - you'll get a notice on your bin 2 weeks before collection is due which will give full instructions, should you wish to donate.



YOUR CONSERVATIVE TEAM

						
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Hersham Green Shopping Centre

Your Hersham Councillors have been talking to the new Centre management, urging them to speed up the letting of the two empty shops, to spruce the place up with a lick of paint, repair the damaged forecourt, and generally tidy up for the benefit of the many who use the Centre. **PHOTO?**

Things are beginning to improve - and there's more to come! We will keep you updated. Hersham in Bloom are also launching their 2013 campaign and welcome all offers of help – call one of your local councillors for details.

Elmbridge Civic Improvement Fund

 Grants are available for local business-related community improvement projects. Find out what the scheme covers, who qualifies, and how you can get funding for improvements in Hersham. Your local councillors will be happy to tell you more about this scheme – give us a call !

Verges and grass cutting

This is now carried out by Elmbridge BC. The service continues to improve throughout Hersham. If you spot anything that needs doing call either the Council or one of your local councillors.



New street lights

Hersham's new lights, coming from 18th March onwards, will be unique to us. A total of 13 of a special type with arched brackets and a globe lantern will be installed, plus an electrical connection for a Christmas tree. This has been made possible through the success of your Conservative councillors' negotiations for Hersham to be included in Elmbridge's Illuminating the High Streets project. We hope you like the new lamps.

Thinking of the future

We are all proud of Hersham, and concerned for its preservation and future improvement. The Government's Localism Act has increased people's influence over local planning of this kind, and several residents took a first step in that direction last August at a Council run workshop in the Village Hall. They put forward ideas worthy of consideration; these were recorded and will be represented soon at an exhibition in Hersham, designed to give everyone an opportunity to make their views known and to stimulate new ideas and proposals.

 What do you think about the things that affect us, like the Shopping Centre, Library, Centre for the Community, the Village Green and other local amenities? Can we use our space better, do we need more activity accommodation, more leisure facilities, can we attract more shops?

ALL Services Protected in 2013-14

Despite having to make over £1m in savings, all Elmbridge's valued services will be completely protected next year and the amount the Council gives to voluntary organisations through the small and medium sized grants will be more than doubled. That's great news for Hersham with our much loved Centre for the Community and wide range of community groups.



