



Liz delighted to help Pyrford with Surrey funds

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Saj pleased that North Meadow to stay unspoilt

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Paul Saper welcomes New School for South Woking

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Woking

Messenger

Serving Knaphill, Goldsworth Park, Horsell, Canalside, Byfleet and West Byfleet, Pyrford, Mount Hermon, Hoe Valley, St John's and Heathlands



CONSERVATIVES GET RESULTS WE NEED

When The Cabin in Knaphill needed more space, local Conservative Councillors got to work to find the solution it needed

Engaging with young people in Woking is a vitally important job and it is much more difficult when the organisations involved do not have enough space to work effectively.

But thanks to Conservative County Councillors Colin Kemp and Saj Hussain, this won't be a problem for The Cabin in Knaphill any more as they worked with Surrey County Council to identify new premises at the Woking Youth Arts Centre, also in Knaphill.

While an ideal location, the building needed internal modification for a youth centre, so the County Council initiative Volunteer It Yourself (VIY) came forward to work with Woking who, with Surrey County Council, jointly funded the project.

VIY combines volunteering and DIY by supporting young people aged 14-24 to learn trade and building skills fixing community buildings in need of essential repairs. This is delivered with Wickes who supplied the materials needed, and is targeted at young people who are not in employment, education or training (NEET) or at risk of being NEET.

Saj said: "This is a positive example of Councils working together to engage with the community, local businesses and volunteers

to get positive results for young people in Woking."

Colin added: "As Chairman of Woking's Youth Task Group, I am delighted with progress at The Cabin."

“ This is a positive example of Surrey and Woking Councils working together to engage with the community. ”



Cllr Melanie Whitehand joins Saj and Colin at The Cabin

HORSELL EAST AND WOODHAM FORUM

Residents from across Woking have long had Residents Associations at street level, which have complemented the public services and focused on street issues.

But there are no local community amenities that act as a natural binding force across the area.

The announcement of possible housing developments in 2027/2040 in the Martyr's Lane area has had a galvanising effect with Conservative County Councillor and candidate Ben Carasco encouraging the formation of an

independent forum of residents to ensure residents' voices are heard.

The forum ran a successful public meeting on 11 January, where the doors had to be shut half an hour before the start time as the hall was packed to capacity.

Ben said: "There are clearly strong feelings on this issue and the new organisation is a good way to give local residents the opportunity to express their views."



Ben at the proposed Woodham site

GET IN TOUCH

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MORE SCHOOL PLACES IN THE BYFLEETS



Richard is a committed campaigner for education

■ A long-serving school governor himself, County Councillor and Conservative candidate, Richard Wilson, is passionate about education opportunities for local children.

Richard has fought successfully for more school places and has been delighted to see the expansion of schools in West Byfleet, including The Marist Catholic Primary School, and both West Byfleet Infant and Junior Schools, each by an additional class of 30 children per year group.

Richard said: "The expansion of West Byfleet Infant and Junior Schools has been really challenging. There was significant concern raised about the traffic issues that already affected the schools and how this would be made worse by any expansion.

"There were also mixed views as to whether the 'chicane' system that manages the flow of traffic in Camphill Road should be removed or retained.

"But while there are still snagging issues to be sorted out, I am really pleased that these schools are able to offer an excellent primary education to more children in the local area."

Richard has been active in Byfleet too, recently working with Surrey and Woking officers to secure the future of King's Pre-School on the Byfleet Primary School site.



Liz with her dog Boris at Warren Farm

LIZ SECURES MONEY FOR LOCAL FACILITIES IN PYRFORD

■ Many local buildings and facilities struggle to secure money for improvements and upgrade, which is where Surrey County Council's Community Infrastructure Fund can help.

In Pyrford, Conservative County Councillor and candidate Liz Bowes has championed a £30,000 community award for Pyrford Village War Memorial Hall. This allowed the stage facilities to be enhanced, equipped a new green room and provided a convenient waiting area for parents collecting children from activities in the hall.

Nearby, Liz has also used some of her members' allocation to enable new play equipment to be provided for Warren Farm.

"This type of funding is so important to keep our precious community facilities modern and pleasant to use," said Liz. "There are many groups that use the hall and they can now offer a better service to their customers, many of whom are local families.

"I am also delighted that we have got new equipment at Warren Farm. It will give a lot of families the chance to have more fun there."



Liz at Pyrford Village War Memorial Hall



SAJ DELIGHTED THAT NORTH MEADOW SAFE

"I think the way forward is for the club to look elsewhere for its extra pitches while keeping the north meadow free for everyone to enjoy, not just for football use."

Conservative County Councillor Saj Hussain has said that he is pleased that the North Meadow in Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground is to be left as a meadow rather than converted into more football pitches.

While Saj supports the aims of the Goldsworth Park Rangers Football Club, he has heard many representations from local residents who want to see the land remain as a natural grassland for walking and exercising.

Saj believes that the needs of the football club can be met in other ways without extending their pitches into the meadow.

"When talking to residents, it became clear that there was a balance to strike here," said Saj. "I know that some local parents have children who are playing football but we have to make the best choices for everyone on this issue."

"I think the way forward is for the club to look elsewhere for its extra pitches while keeping the north meadow free for everyone to enjoy, not just for football use."

"My Woking Borough Council colleague Chitra Rana has also been collecting residents' views and they are generally in agreement on this issue."



Saj at the North Meadow, now to remain



Ben with Cllr Rashid Mohammed explain their plans to a local resident

BEN'S FOCUS ON MAYBURY AND SHEERWATER ENVIRONMENT

Residents of Maybury and Sheerwater have been working with County Councillor Ben Carasco to improve their local environment.

In particular, parking on greens and grass verges disfigures the area and a number of local measures have been put in place with more in the pipeline through close working between Ben and the Borough Council.

Residents have also expressed interest in the concept of "Rain Gardens", which is currently being explored, and Ben has been promoting this as a way of transforming the appearance of some areas.

The self-help philosophy is taking root and Ben is currently working with a group of residents to launch a community-based health and wellbeing initiative of benefit to all age groups.

Local News inbrief



Colin and Cllr Beryl Hunwicks in the High Street

COLIN WORKING HARD ON HORSELL PARKING

Conservative County Councillor Colin Kemp knows the value of the shops on Horsell High Street but is often approached about the parking situation nearby.

Parking on the road is regulated by Surrey County Council but parking spaces in front of the shops are private property. Colin is looking into ways of securing

improvements to both.

"Some people have asked me to consider parking restrictions," said Colin. "But if you talk to businesses in the area, they are worried that their business would suffer so I am hesitant to do this. But we won't give up and we will find a proper solution."



Ayesha and Borough Councillor Kevin Davis

BROOKWOOD CROSSROADS PLEDGE

For a long time, Brookwood Crossroads has been a cause of frustration for local people due to congestion at peak times.

Conservative County Council candidate Ayesha Azad is committed to a plan to improve the junction by providing left filter lanes out of both Connaught Road and Guildford

Lye Road so drivers have longer to get into the A322 if travelling north from Connaught Road or south from Guildford Lye Road.

Ayesha said: "I am very pleased that proposals for this work are due to go out to public consultation and I hope work will start on these improvements in early 2018."



Richard and former Councillor Gary Elson at Sheer House



Ayesha in Hook Heath

SUPPORTING WEST BYFLEET REGENERATION

"I am delighted that at last West Byfleet is getting the attention it deserves"

■ Hardworking County Councillor and Conservative candidate for The Byfleets, Richard Wilson, has long been committed to regenerating the centre of West Byfleet, as the next most important centre in the Borough after the Town Centre.

Richard is delighted that the owners of Sheer House, Altitude, have designed an imaginative solution for West Byfleet that will positively transform the area for the long term benefit of residents, businesses, shops, and visitors alike.

Richard said: "I am delighted that at last West

Byfleet is getting the attention it deserves and that Woking Borough Council is promoting this attractive scheme. Altitude has submitted its Planning Application and, subject to Planning Consent being given, I hope that work will start on the development in late 2018 or early 2019.

"I will continue to work with Surrey Highways and other departments within the county council to ensure that issues relating to infrastructure around the site are managed appropriately," he added.

AYESHA WANTS TO RETAIN CHARACTER OF AREA

■ Areas such as Hook Heath and Brookwood need support to retain their character with attempts at inappropriate development evermore common.

Conservative County Council candidate Ayesha Azad has a record of fighting for the retention of green spaces and our Green Belt as the Borough Councillor for Heathlands.

Surrey County Council has an important role to play in ensuring that infrastructure is planned and maintained in areas that are appropriate for development and objecting when highways and infrastructure will not support additional housing.

"I am clear that that we need new homes and there is a place for development that is planned properly," said Ayesha. "What I will fight against is piecemeal attempts at garden-grabbing and protect areas such as the Hook Heath escarpment, where development is clearly wrong."

NEW SCHOOL FOR WOKING SOUTH

■ One of Surrey County Council's strategic goals is to promote the wellbeing of residents by ensuring that children can attend a good school of their choice in a county which has seen the demand for school places rocketing over the past few years.

Conservative County Council candidate Paul Saper, a founding member of the Mayford Village Society and activist who has lived locally for more than 30 years, is delighted the Hoe Valley School will help make this a reality for residents of South Woking.

Paul said: "This new secondary free school is a welcome addition to the Woking family of schools."



Paul at Barnsbury Primary School, nearby to the new Hoe Valley School

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