

F Court Ward **FOCUS TEAM**

Putting local residents first, ALL YEAR ROUND!

August 2010



www.epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk

www.surreylibdems.org.uk

Overgrown Trees, Hedges and Broken Lamps

A resident in Eastway contacted us about an overgrown hedge off the public footpath and also about one of the faulty street lights. David Buxton reported these and the hedge have now been trimmed.

A resident of Ormonde Avenue was delighted when Dave Morgan arranged for the council to sort out a broken lamp post nearby.

David Buxton has spoken with the council's Tree Officer and set up dates to prune trees in the Brettgrave and Longmead area. Please let David know if you have overgrown trees outside your property.

Stop Dogs using the slide as a plaything

Some residents have complained that the aerial slide in Long Grove Park is being used as a plaything for dogs. This could obviously be dangerous. David has asked the council if it can be fenced in.

Lighting in our local roads

Generally street lighting is a county responsibility but where roads have not been "adopted", the developer remains responsible. This is the case on Livingstone Park. On Longmead, many of the street lights either belong to Epsom & Ewell Borough Council or Rosebery Housing Association.

It's a real headache trying to find out who owns what and each organisation initially blames the other – despite the special map which has been produced! Street lighting has definitely improved with the new contractor but County Councillor Colin Taylor said a few defects seem to have been overlooked. He's continuing to follow these up.

Vehicle Activated Signs (which flash a speed limit or a warning) are held up on our roads because the county forgot to include connecting them to an electricity supply when they awarded the new lighting contract. Double lamp posts in Hook Road are the responsibility of the St Ebba's (Parkviews) developer – the same one as Livingstone Park, so nothing will happen quickly.

Our Local Roads

Tory-led Surrey County Council's Budget cuts mean that the county now has no money at all for road improvements. They will be repairing potholes for the next few years. Temple Road resurfacing was the only job of its type to be done in the whole of Surrey this year. The Parkviews developer has improved parts of Hook Road near to the St Ebba's site.

Our Local Schools Update

The building work at Southfield Park Primary School to enable expansion to two-form entry is going well. The Infants (KS1) part should be complete by the end of the year, enabling the temporary classroom to be removed after Christmas. The Junior Wing will follow on. Southfield Park marks two milestones this summer when its first ever pupils move on to their secondary schools and its first ever head-teacher Jane Fairbourn moves on to the new North Downs primary school. An excellent new head teacher has been appointed, whose name will be announced by the school shortly.

Epsom Primary School will have three reception classes from September. With Parkviews nearing occupancy it remains to be seen how the county's educational policy deals with pressures on certain primary schools to become "academies".

Epsom & Ewell High School is now recognised by Ofsted as a "good" school with many features marked as "outstanding". It's one of the eight most improved schools in England and Wales. It has sufficient spare capacity and sufficient space to expand if necessary. The other three secondary schools in the borough continue to be over-subscribed and cannot expand.

Looking for FOCUS newsletter deliverers

The Court ward Focus team needs volunteers to help deliver Focus. If you are interested please contact Dave Morgan (contact details overleaf).

Court Ward FOCUS E-News

We have over 120 people signed up to this electronic newsletter. If you are not on the list please let one of your local councillors know.

Blue Badge Charges

The issue of charges Blue Badge holders has received much publicity. The ruling Residents' Party on the borough council finally won the day with the vote 16:14 in favour. **Your local Lib Dems ran a campaign against the charges and submitted a petition.** Only 1 out of 11 Surrey boroughs currently charge – soon to be 2 including Epsom & Ewell.

More Action from your local councillors

*** David Buxton is still pressing the council to find a use for the **Horton Chapel**. They have agreed to select three local residents from Livingstone Park, Clarendon Park and Manor Park to sit on the new working party which will decide a way forward. **David will also be on the working group and is keen on the idea of a community development trust.** He would also like additional money from developers of the West Park development to go toward the funds currently held by the council for the Chapel

*** Your local councillors have reported about the **hazardous trellis fencing by the bus stop in Hook Road (opposite Tomlin Court)**. They considered it a hazard for visually impaired people and some of the older residents who live nearby. We are still pressing for action on this. Let us know of any other areas like this.

*** Your local councillors have discussed the problem of drivers parking over driveways which happens all over the borough. Two houses in Longmead were having this problem and one of the residents was disabled and finding it very difficult. Surrey County Council has painted an access protection mark to stop people parking. **It's good to report a SUCCESS**

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LIB-DEM COUNCILLORS

Cllr David Buxton

email: david.buxton@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk
tel: 07870 565837 (sms only)

Cllr David Morgan

email: david.morgan@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk
tel: 01372 741081

**County Cllr Colin Taylor
Surrey County Council**

email: colin.taylor@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk
tel: 01372 721336

Or write to:

**Epsom & Ewell Liberal
Democrats (Court Ward),
FREEPOST KT3525
Epsom KT19 9BR**

(no stamp required but it saves us money if you use one).

Asking for our help and/or supporting your local FOCUS Team

GOT A PROBLEM? Please use this space for any local issues, complaints or ideas that you want your local Court Ward FOCUS Team to take up. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Tel No: _____ Email: _____

I would like to:

- display a window poster during the election time
- deliver FOCUS leaflets around where I live
- become a member of Epsom & Ewell Lib-Dems
- make a donation of £ _____ (to Epsom & Ewell Liberal Democrats)

Send to (no stamp needed but it saves us money if you use one):

Epsom & Ewell Lib Dems (Court Ward), FREEPOST, Epsom KT19 9BR