

# focus



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## A GOVERNMENT GRANT CUT OF 16.5% (and that's just for 2011-12) to deal with Labour's legacy

Council officials expected up to 10%, but the awful reality is a cut in government grant of 16.5% for this financial year and a further 10% next year. Councillor Dave Morgan who lives in Pound Lane said "small district and borough councils have fared really badly out of the Coalition's strategy to deal with the huge debt left by Labour. Those in Surrey have definitely been hit. Our community must work together on this, protect vital services and if we have to make cuts they must be on the non-essentials. We've also got to look at ways our council can increase its income so that it can carry on providing services which are important to local residents." **There are numerous good things to come out of the Coalition's new governance : the council tax freeze in 2011-12, the tax break being rolled out on the first £10,000 earned, State Pensions increasing in line with the highest of earnings, prices or 2.5% and the potential for voting reform.** "Space limits the amount of detail we can give here, but I'm more than happy to talk to local residents who want more information" said Dave.

### DAVID AND CHARLES HAVE BEEN LOOKING AT YOUR SURVEY RETURNS ...

**Very important to you are Low Council Tax, Keeping Epsom Hospital, Protecting the Green Belt and Recycling.**

You also think local shops are important, the ability to park near them and anti-social behaviour is also a big issue for many people on Longmead. *You gave us some great ideas about using our open spaces and council buildings and there were lots of comments about Horton Chapel, Horton Tower and about the state of our roads.*



Charles, David and Dave

COME OUT AND MEET US—  
WE HAVE STREET SURGERIES  
TWICE A MONTH

**Local residents working for local residents**

# NEWS IN BRIEF . . . .

## **LIVINGSTONE PARK LANDSCAPING AND BROKEN LIGHTING ISSUES**

Your local councillors attended a meeting in the middle of January with the Borough Council. They expect to serve an "enforcement" notice on Persimmon and the other companies in February 2011, which will cover some 50 issues on the site, many of which involve individual homeowners. The Council were pleased with the response from local residents to their letter about these issues. If you would like more details, contact David Buxton.



After receiving several complaints from residents, David Buxton contacted Persimmon and Charles Church with a list of 22 broken street lights after he spent an evening walking round. Charles Church replied on 3rd February that instructions have been issued and promised to be on site rectifying street lighting problems at Livingstone Park within the next 10 days. Please contact David for details.

## **HOLLYMOOR LANE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

Progress on the Borough Council's working group, which was set up to find a new investor for this site, is terribly slow. There's only been one meeting so far but we will keep telling the Council how important this project is. We've been keeping local residents who live near Hollymoor Lane informed by special FOCUS "street letters".

## **HORTON CHAPEL**

Once again, we are represented on this working group which hopes to organise a Community Development Trust to take over the Chapel. The Livingstone Park area has local resident Hugh Henstridge who is happy to talk to local residents about what's happening. His email address is [henstridgeh@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:henstridgeh@hotmail.co.uk)

## **BRITANIACREST LORRIES**

Dave Morgan and his colleagues have started a petition to try and stop Britaniacrest waste lorries from using residential roads. They spend the majority of their time, taking waste from other boroughs out of Epsom after it has been brought in by refuse lorries from Mole Valley, Elmbridge, Reigate & Banstead and Tandridge boroughs. We think this practice is wrong. We hope to get the petition on our website. In the meantime, contact Dave Morgan for details.

## **PARKING CHARGES**

Conservative-led Surrey County Council is planning to charge for on-street parking on shopping parades from November this year. We don't think that anywhere in Court Ward is affected but if you want to know more details, contact Charles Wood. All the charges are on our website.

## **WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS IN PARKVIEWS**

We've spent the past two months knocking on doors of new residents in Parkviews, which was the old St Ebba's estate. If you live there, please make sure you are on the Council's electoral roll (download a form on [www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk](http://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk)) and if you can help deliver FOCUS for us, please do get in touch.

## **CUMBERLAND CLOSE - LITTER**

Dave Morgan has arranged for litter to be picked up in Cumberland Close. Whilst visiting residents on Longmead he noticed some front gardens which are also full of litter - this can spoil the outlook for other residents, so perhaps those residents can pick up litter in their own front gardens.

## **HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LIB-DEM COUNCILLORS**

**Cllr David Buxton**  
email: [david.buxton@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk](mailto:david.buxton@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk)  
tel: 07581181719 (SMS only)

**Cllr David Morgan**  
email: [david.morgan@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk](mailto:david.morgan@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk)  
tel: 01372 741081

**Cllr Charles Wood**  
email: [cwood@epsom-ewell.gov.uk](mailto:cwood@epsom-ewell.gov.uk)  
tel: 07736367075

**County Cllr Colin Taylor**  
**Surrey County Council**  
email: [colin.taylor@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk](mailto: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).

**WHY DON'T YOU JOIN COURT WARD E-NEWS LIST (now over 210 residents)  
keeps you regularly updated from your local councillors on community news and action....**

**then email us ... [court-focus@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk](mailto:court-focus@epsom-ewell-libdems.org.uk)**