



NEWSLETTER August 2015

enquiries@hinchleywood.org.uk
www.hinchleywood.org.uk

It's the time of year when we make another appeal for your continued support through your subscription of £3 per household (£2 for a sole resident).

Please be sure to fill in your name and house number on the subscription envelope before it is collected by, or returned to, your road representative. If possible, please also add your e-mail address. These will only be used for urgent updates from HWRA, and will not be passed on to third parties.

If you are in a road without a representative, or are unsure, please take your subscription to the subscriptions secretary, Roy Turner, at 2 Montgomery Avenue.

Review of local electoral boundaries

The Local Government Boundary Commission have accepted the Elmbridge Borough Council administration's recommendation to reduce the number of councillors from 60 to 48, and have confirmed that each of the new wards will have three members.

As far as Hinchley Wood is concerned, the good news is that they have accepted that we have a strong community identity and have therefore rejected the administration's proposal to split the ward in half. However, in order to produce a three member ward of the right size, they propose that Weston Green and Hinchley Wood should be merged, and that the Lynwood estate should be transferred to Long Ditton. Their full report can be viewed by following the link from the Hinchley Wood website.

Consultation on the Commission's proposals is open until 24th August, but it is unlikely that any changes to the current proposals would produce a better outcome for Hinchley Wood, unless the Commission could be persuaded to depart from the principle of uniform three-member wards and/or reverse the reduction in the number of councillors, both of which are highly unlikely. The Chairman of HWRA will however be writing to the Commission to ask them to reconsider the proposal to detach the Lynwood estate from Hinchley Wood, and to suggest that, if this does nevertheless go ahead, the proposed boundary should be adjusted so that our recreation ground, allotments and scout/guide hut remain within Hinchley Wood ward.

It is particularly gratifying to note that of the 180 Elmbridge residents' representations to the Boundary Commission, over 170 were sent by Hinchley Wood residents and everyone opposed the proposed carve up of the Ward and its division between Long Ditton and Weston Green. By any stretch of the imagination, and as acknowledged by the Commission, this was an unprecedented expression of community cohesion. HWRA thanks all those who wrote in.

Your Councillors

Following the most recent elections in May, Councillor Janet Turner has been elected as Chairman of Elmbridge Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee, which is charged with holding Portfolio Holders (ruling administration councillors) and Council Officers to account. She is also a member of the local Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Board (see over), Main Planning and Countryside Committees, Surrey County Council Countryside Group and Cycling Forum.

Councillor Nigel Haig-Brown has been appointed to Audit and Standards, East Area Planning, and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, and is a member of the local CIL Board and Information and Computer Technologies steering group.

We take this opportunity to welcome all new residents of Hinchley Wood into the local community.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Larger developments are required to make a contribution to a fund administered by the Council for the benefit of the area in which the relevant development takes place. Applications for support for community projects mitigating the effects of development can be made on line at tplan@elmbridge.gov.uk.

One such idea is to install cycle hoops on unused land on either side of the railway, to encourage commuters who might otherwise drive to cycle to Hinchley Wood station. Currently such cyclists are an extremely rare sight as the only facilities are on the platform, accessible only by carrying the bike over the footbridge or by a long detour via the Lynwood estate. Any residents in favour of such a bid are encouraged to email chairman@hinchleywood.org.uk.

To date two local applications have been determined: one by Hinchley Wood Scouts to replace a fence with a hedgerow; and a second by the senior school to refurbish their sports hall lavatories.

Schools

Both the Hinchley Wood senior and junior schools have made planning applications to increase class room provision. Your councillors, with Surrey's Safer Routes to School Officer, continue to press both schools to introduce travel policies and implement green travel plans.



Janet Turner

Our Councillors Janet Turner and Nigel Haig-Brown can be contacted as follows:

janet.turner@hinchleywood.org.uk Tel: 020 8398 1565
nigel.haig-brown@hinchleywood.org.uk Tel: 020 8398 4060



Nigel Haig-Brown

Councillors' Surgeries: second Saturday of each month. Please check the HWRA notice board and/or website for details of time and venue.

www.hinchleywood.org.uk

If you would like to receive e-bulletins from HWRA, please go to the Contact page on the website and click on the 'subscribe' link.

Fun Day

This year's FunDay is on Saturday 12 September and will be held in the Memorial Gardens between 11:00 and 15:30. Punch & Judy, and the circus workshop make a welcome return. Other not-for-profit organisations will be there too.

The event will be opened by Deputy Mayor Tannia Shipley.

Police Panel/ Immobilise Database

Although we live in a safe and a low crime area residents' perceptions tend to be different.

One initiative gives residents the opportunity to register their moveable property at www.immobilise.com for free. This database of serial numbers entered by owners into a personal account is accessible by police on the beat countrywide. Using hand-held devices they can check, on the spot, whether an item e.g. a bicycle or any of "four satnavs in a rucksack" have been reported stolen.

In addition, cash convertors are required to check the database before concluding a transaction, and to inform the police **at the time**, if a hit indicates that an attempt has been made to sell stolen goods.

Obviously, to work effectively and to stand any chance of being reunited with your property, you need to register any property with a serial number or other identifying marks, and to report items that are lost or stolen.