

Hersham Residents Association

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Active, Positive and Non-Political since 1971

Serving all Hersham Residents

Newsletter Autumn 2014



Mark House, 9-11 Queens Road, Hersham Planning Application No.2013/5106

Occasionally the HRA highlights particular planning applications which we feel are significant for the wider Hersham community. We feel the above proposal was important because the site overlooks Hersham Green and is adjacent to the Hersham Green Conservation Area.



The HRA AGM meeting on 15 May included the launch of a petition about a planning application to build a block of flats overlooking Hersham Green (6 storeys replacing a smaller 3 storey structure known as Mark House which, at the time, was being used as offices).

Thanks to the 400+ people who signed the petition, and also the 30 or so people who attended the meeting in the public gallery - the proposal was refused at a council meeting on 17 June.

The views of the public when coordinated and clearly presented can make a significant difference.

A Note From The Chair

We've had a busy summer with discussion and action about planning issues and proposed development. Some change in any area is inevitable – especially in an expanding community near London. But what changes are accepted and how these are implemented should be discussed and managed within the community.

That's where a strong, independent and non-political Residents Association can play an important role. So please join us and help with our work if you can.

We also organize and support community initiatives – please note the quiz on the 30th October and also the Hersham Christmas event – this year on the 13th December.

If you have any views about Hersham issues – or would like us to help advertise or support a local community event – please get in touch. Details about how to join the HRA are given at the bottom of this newsletter.

Development in Hersham

Whilst we all recognise the acute demand for housing in the South East, we also need to be aware of the clear yet intangible costs to us all of providing more housing in an area where the infrastructure is already stretched.

The HRA committee highlighted the proposed Drake Park development of 1000 houses - this potentially could add about 1000 extra car drivers on roads near Hersham. Proposed new housing at Rydens School playing fields would add a further 300. We discussed what the local roads would be like with what could be up to 1,300 more cars using them.

The committee has concerns that the positive benefits of roads enabling us to get from A to B could be reduced, and the negative aspects of increased congestion, pollution and hazards for cyclists and pedestrians would all be increased.

Any comments you would like the HRA to note about these or any other developments in Hersham please mailto:info@hershamresidents.info.

Hersham's Big Lunch

The sun shone as crowds gathered for Hersham's first ever 'Big Lunch' on Vaux Mead on Sunday afternoon 1st June. The Big Lunch is promoted nationally on a date when people right around the UK are encouraged to get to know their neighbours at local community picnics and similar events.

In Hersham, picnickers were particularly encouraged and this helped to get to know neighbours and other residents who were also at the event. Games were provided by the organisers and picnickers; and the entertainment ranged from badminton to paper plane throwing. There was also an open mic. which singers of all ages used to entertain the crowd, estimated by the organisers as around 300.

A great time was had by all and comments from the suggestion box show strong support for making the Big Lunch an annual event in Hersham. So put the date in your diary for next year

7th June 2015!

Forthcoming HRA events

Quiz 30th October 7.30 p.m.

Don't miss our next quiz to be held at the Watermans Arms.

– All Welcome –

Teams decided on the night – free to join in and members and non-members are equally welcome. Light refreshments provided. Phone 01932 703175 to help give us an idea of numbers.



Christmas Fun in HERSHAM on Saturday 13th December



Please come and support the local shops and enjoy some festive activities in Hersham. Then see the Mayor 'officially' switch on Hersham's Christmas tree lights on the Green (bring your torches and lanterns). See the Robin decorations from Burhill School lit up on the NEW Christmas tree which will be in place by then! After all that join us in the Watermans Arms for mulled wine and mince pies, a raffle and a chance to support a bit of community spirit in Hersham – mark the date in your diaries!

Hersham Community Calendar

This is a useful 'electronic noticeboard' of shared information about what's on in Hersham and when.

You can help develop this by suggesting community events which we can add to the calendar. So if you would like to add a Hersham event or perhaps details of a community club or society which is open to Hersham residents (no commercial advertising) –

please mail to: info@hershamresidents.info

About Hersham Residents Association (HRA)

Our Aims: To promote the interests of all the people of Hersham, to foster a feeling of goodwill, and to help the people of Hersham however and whenever possible.

To join us or to find out more please email info@hershamresidents.info (and do also visit our website) or call 01932 703175