

# KRA KINGSWOOD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

IN KINGSWOOD VILLAGE HALL,  
WATERHOUSE LANE, AT  
8PM, TUESDAY MARCH 21, 2023

**DOORS OPEN AT 7.30. PLEASE TRY TO COME EARLY AS NUMBERS  
ARE RESTRICTED TO THE HALL'S OFFICIAL SEATING LICENCE**

# WHAT IS THE KRA?

THE Kingswood Residents' Association (KRA) is a non-political, non-commercial and voluntary organisation whose aim is the stewardship of the character of the village and whose formally stated objective is *'the promotion of the welfare of the community through the good governance of the district in relation to planning, environment, safety and conservation so as to preserve and improve the amenities of the village'*.

The Kingswood Residents' Association (KRA) is separate from the Kingswood Village Community Association (KVCA) and also separate from the individual private road-owning companies, KHCL and KNECL, and other individual road associations, which have their own aims and objectives.

The KRA works closely with Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (RBBC) through its borough councillors and also with our local county councillor on matters governed by Surrey County Council (SCC).

The KRA aims to work for the community as a whole, and so all Kingswood residents are welcome to attend our Annual General Meeting. However, only members can vote on formal association business and propose a resolution to be voted on at the AGM.

For details of how to join the KRA, please turn to the back page of this report.

## PLEASE NOTE:

Any member wishing to propose a resolution to be considered at the AGM must give no less than seven days' notice to the Minutes Secretary, either by e-mail to [secretary@thekra.co.uk](mailto:secretary@thekra.co.uk) marked 'Resolution' or by post to: Verdala, The Glade, Kingswood KT20 6JE, to arrive no later than Monday, March 13 2023. The same notice is required for any nominations for KRA officers or committee members. Only members of the KRA can vote on formal association business or propose a resolution to be voted on at the AGM.

# WHO ARE WE?

*AS OF December 31, 2022, the Honorary Officers and committee members of the KRA were as follows:*

## **KRA HONORARY OFFICERS:**

CHAIR	DAVID FLOYD	07776 437436
VICE-CHAIR	JUSTUS VAN DER SPUY	07785 290651
TREASURER	ADRIENNE LIGHT	01737 832133
SECRETARY (MINUTES/PUBLICITY)	ALISTAIR SINCLAIR	07751 202646
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	DAVE SAUNDERS	01737 350718
PLANNING CHAIR	DES CAMBLIN	01737 833823
ROADS AND TRANSPORT	MIKE GIBSON	01737 351682

## **KRA COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE ROADS THEY SERVE:**

ALCOCKS LANE	TOM CORRIGAN	01737 373253
BEECH DRIVE, BEARS DEN	ANDREW WINYARD	07809 600570
BIRCH GROVE	AMANDA SMITH	01737 833630
THE CHASE	STEPHEN GALE-BATTEN	01737 831282
COPLEIGH DRIVE	DAVE SAUNDERS	01737 350718
COPT HILL LANE (EAST)	DAVID FLOYD	07776 437436
COPT HILL LANE (WEST)	BERYL/DUNCAN OSBORNE	01737 360766
DORIC DRIVE	BARRY MILES	01737 358189
EYHURST CLOSE	RAJAN KAPOOR	07850 936245
EYHURST PARK	JOHN CURTIS	07752 188442
FOREST DRIVE	SUZANNE PALMER	01737 833533
FURZE HILL	ANDREW GREY	07788 664464
THE GLADE (EAST)	ALISTAIR SINCLAIR	07751 202646
THE GLADE (WEST)	JUSTUS VAN DER SPUY	07785 290651
GLEDHOW WOOD, LILLEY DRIVE	RICHARD LEWIS	01737 832984
HAMILTON PLACE	JANINE CONNICK	01737 830006
SANDY LANE	DES CAMBLIN	01737 833823
ST. MONICA'S ROAD	CHANTAL COX	07957 810771
WATERHOUSE LANE (A217-QUARRY CORNER)	MIKE GIBSON	01737 351682
WATERHOUSE LANE (VILLAGE HALL-STATION)	VALERIE EVANS	07803 260499
THE WARREN, WOODLAND WAY (SOUTH)	ADRIENNE LIGHT	01737 832133
WARREN DRIVE	ADRIENNE LIGHT	01737 832133
WOODLAND WAY (NORTH)	SAPNA DHAMI	07740 923069
WARREN LODGE DRIVE	ARASH SHABABI	07973 758283

## **COUNCILLORS AND THE ROADS THEY REPRESENT**

WATERHOUSE LANE (EAST OF STATION)	CAROLINE NEAME	07767 782473
KINGSWOOD WARREN PARK	SIMON PARNALL	01737 830888

*ROAD REPRESENTATIVES ALSO COVER ROADS BRANCHING OFF THEIR PRIMARY ROADS, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED.*



# CHAIR'S REPORT

DAVID FLOYD

I'M DELIGHTED to invite you to the KRA's Annual General Meeting at the end of this, my first year as KRA Chair. It's been fascinating to see how the association works in so many ways on behalf of the residents and, hopefully, to have been able to contribute to what has turned out to be a very busy year.

Over the past 12 months, the KRA has been a bit like a swan – making steady progress without causing too many ripples while, beneath the surface, a lot of frantic movement has been going on!

Above the surface activities have included regular update meetings with L&G Capital to keep abreast with their plans for turning the L&G site into a retirement community (of which, more later), monitoring the current redevelopment of the station yard site, in which the KRA has been a key player, and the welcome reintroduction last month of KRA coffee mornings. Judging by the splendid turnout these will, once again, prove an effective way of keeping our fingers on the pulse of opinion within Kingswood.

Below the waterline, so to speak, 2022 saw a hugely ambitious programme within the KRA to fundamentally re-examine its purpose, aims and priorities, and try to see if there are ways we can better serve our community and its residents.

This process has included a wide-reaching Village Questionnaire, sent out over the summer for all residents – whether KRA members or not – to complete. The results make for fascinating reading and have helped give the KRA real guidance on where its efforts should be directed. (You can access the questionnaire and responses, along with all the other relevant AGM papers, using the links under 'Related Documents' later in this brochure.)

The task of examining how the KRA functions and where its focus should be has been undertaken by a small group of eight of our committee members under the enthusiastic chairmanship of the KRA's Vice-Chair, Justus van der Spuy. Thanks to this Strategy Working Group (SWG), the KRA now has a robust Code of Conduct, a Code of Financial Governance and a new draft Constitution which takes into account how democratic voluntary organisations such as ours operate in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. In the course of our AGM, KRA members will be asked to vote on adopting this new Constitution.

The SWG also proposed - and had accepted - a wider and more detailed remit for the planning sub-committee - vital considering so many of our residents' concerns surround planning and development - and explored ways of expanding our roads and transport brief, not only to monitor and act on local problems, but also to liaise with other local residents' associations in tackling transport issues which have a broader impact.

The remit for the Strategy Working Group expires at this year's AGM but we believe we have both strengthened the KRA as an organisation and also increased the scope of its activities to deal with matters most relevant to today's villagers.

One of the key issues of concern that comes up constantly is the seeming lack of progress by L&G in developing their old site into a retirement community. When plans were announced, the KRA played a key role in ensuring this planned development would not impact the area negatively but, in fact, enhance village life. To this end, the KRA meets regularly with L&G Capital and, at the time of going to press, I have been promised an update to share with the AGM. As a result of KRA involvement, there are

now increased police and L&G security patrols to counter some incidents of anti-social behaviour on the site and initiatives are underway to tidy up the area although, since there are public footpaths involved, access to the site must by law be kept open. The L&G development was one of the hottest topics at our coffee morning in the village hall last month and I was, hopefully, able to allay any concerns about its future. I was delighted to see so many of you turn up to this, our first such event since the Covid lockdown. We set up special desks where you could speak one-to-one with your local councillor, the police, and get advice from the chair of the KRA's planning sub-committee.

These coffee mornings are going to be regular events in the village calendar and the next will be on Saturday, April 15 in the Village Hall. Make sure you save the date now. We will also be expanding them to include 'themed' events with guest speakers invited to talk on specific subjects, be it the environment, conservation, transport, planning laws, security – indeed, anything relevant to life in our village and the wider community. So please, if you have any thoughts about subjects of interest, just let us know. And watch out for more information coming soon.

Finally, I would like to pay special thanks to two stalwarts of the KRA who are stepping down from the organisation after many, many years between them serving on our governing committee.

Adrienne Light, our current Treasurer, who has occupied many roles within the KRA over the years and has brought enormous energy to whatever she does on our behalf, and Des Camblin, a hugely-influential former KRA Chair and chair of the current planning sub-committee, will be missed for the wise counsel he offers in so many areas of village life.

But, as the Strategy Working Group recognises, times move on and organisations need to adapt and have new life breathed into them. With this in mind, I would like to invite any members (or current non-members for that matter) to step forward this year to perhaps offer their services as voluntary officers or local road representatives. We have several vacancies and are always on the look-out for community-minded residents to help carry on the vital work the KRA has been doing in our village for so many years. So please, do step forward if you think you can help – and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on March 21.

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and introductions.**
- 2. Approval of 2022 AGM minutes.**
- 3. Annual report of the Chair: David Floyd.**
- 4. Treasurer's report: Adrienne Light.**
- 5. Re-election of auditor David Buckley.**
- 6. Election of the KRA officers and committee.**
- 7. Votes on new Constitution.**
- 8. Councillors' update:**  
**Rebecca Paul (Surrey County Council).**  
**Simon Parnall, Caroline Neame and Tim Archer (Reigate and Banstead Borough Council).**
- 9. Any Other Business.**



# ELECTION OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE

*THE AGM is asked to vote for the election/re-election of its Honorary Officers and committee members as listed below. This list was correct at date of publication.*

## KRA HONORARY OFFICERS:

CHAIR	DAVID FLOYD
VICE-CHAIR	<b>VACANCY</b>
TREASURER	<b>VACANCY</b>
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	DAVE SAUNDERS
SECRETARY (MINUTES/PUBLICITY)	ALISTAIR SINCLAIR
PLANNING CHAIR	<b>VACANCY</b>
ROADS AND TRANSPORT	MIKE GIBSON

## KRA COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND THE ROADS THEY SERVE:

ALCOCKS LANE	<i>JOHN WOOD</i>
BEECH DRIVE, BEARS DEN	<i>ZAID SETHI</i>
BIRCH GROVE	AMANDA SMITH
THE CHASE	STEPHEN GALE-BATTEN
COPLEIGH DRIVE	DAVE SAUNDERS
COPT HILL LANE (EAST)	DAVID FLOYD
COPT HILL LANE (WEST)	BERYL/DUNCAN OSBORNE
DORIC DRIVE	BARRY MILES
EYHURST CLOSE	RAJAN KAPOOR
EYHURST PARK	JOHN CURTIS
FOREST DRIVE	SUZANNE PALMER
FURZE HILL	ANDREW GREY
THE GLADE	ALISTAIR SINCLAIR
GLEDHOW WOOD, LILLEY DRIVE	RICHARD LEWIS
HAMILTON PLACE	<b>VACANCY</b>
SANDY LANE	<i>BRENDA WORMALD</i>
SANDY LANE SOUTH	<i>DEBORAH MACKENZIE</i>
ST. MONICA'S ROAD	CHANTAL COX
WATERHOUSE LANE (A217-QUARRY CORNER)	MIKE GIBSON
WATERHOUSE LANE (VILLAGE HALL-STATION)	VALERIE EVANS
THE WARREN, WOODLAND WAY (SOUTH)	<b>VACANCY</b>
WARREN DRIVE	<b>VACANCY</b>
WOODLAND WAY (NORTH)	SAPNA DHAMI
WARREN LODGE DRIVE	<i>MARTIN NIEMANN</i>

## COUNCILLORS AND THE ROADS THEY REPRESENT

WATERHOUSE LANE (EAST OF STATION)	CAROLINE NEAME
KINGSWOOD WARREN PARK	SIMON PARNALL

*THE NAMES OF NEW ROAD REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2023 ARE IN ITALICS*



# STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

**JUSTUS VAN DER SPUY**

**INTERIM STRATEGY WORKING GROUP:** the ISWG was formed in November 2021 to determine whether a strategic review of KRA activity ought to be undertaken. The contents of its initial report - *Is the KRA at a Crossroads?* – which can be accessed at the end of this report are self-explanatory. The report lists 12 topics reviewed by the ISWG during a (very busy!) two-month period up to January 2022, covering the manner of the KRA's functioning (*How we do things*) as well as current and potential future areas of activity for the KRA (*What we do*).

**STRATEGY WORKING GROUP:** in January 2022, the KRA voted to form a Strategy Working Group (SWG) with a defined remit and timeline agreed in March 2022 to complete its work by the 2023 KRA AGM. This report summarises that work, with all relevant documents listed at the end of this section. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the SWG committee members who invested enormous effort, thought and goodwill to enable members to benefit from a real 'back to basics' re-think of KRA activities.

**HOW WE DO THINGS:** the No. 1 priority was to align the KRA's governance standards with best practices (Code of Financial Governance and draft Constitution), set standards for members' engagement with each other (Code of Conduct) and define clearer remits for the activities of the existing sub-committees (Planning, Roads and Transport). Finally, a working group (which was greatly assisted by Stephen Gale-Batten) convened to update the KRA's Constitution, which is being presented to this AGM for approval by the members.

**WHAT WE DO:** we wanted to put the 's-apostrophe' back into Kingswood Residents' Association, i.e. to remind ourselves that ownership of the association and its agenda ultimately lies with its members. In pursuit of this objective, a Village Questionnaire (VQ) was circulated over the summer period when all residents were given the opportunity to comment on the current activities of the KRA and voice opinions as to new areas of pursuit. One important outcome of the VQ was that residents expressed concern about the village environment and appearance. At its November 2022 meeting, the KRA committee decided to form a Village Environment and Appearance sub-committee. Residents also expressed the view that, where public service delivery impacted residents beyond the immediate boundaries of Kingswood, it was reasonable for the KRA to address these concerns in wider forums including reaching out to, and cooperating with, neighbouring residents' associations (RAs) on matters of joint concern. The VQ responses are available by clicking on the relevant links below.

**OUTREACH:** this refers to engaging with neighbouring residents' associations, and/or the Banstead Federation of 12 local RAs to which the KRA belongs, to identify topics of common interest or concern and identify joint action plans to address them. Outreach allows us to benefit from critical inputs from, as well as

access to, leadership and expertise from neighbouring residents' association committee members.

**VOLUNTEERS AND COMMITTEE STRUCTURE:** as well as some successes, the SWG has encountered certain obstacles. We have so far failed to secure volunteers to augment the existing Roads and Transport, and Membership sub-committees. At the time of going to print, a Village Environment and Appearance remit and/or sub-committee has yet to see the light of day. Attempts by the SWG to create a smaller, more manageable core committee of eight-ten persons rather than the current 24, have also failed.

**CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:** the major changes relate to -

- Allowing road representatives to opt out of (voting) committee membership on an annual basis.
- Creating opportunities for meaningful participation in the affairs of the KRA by all the committee through proxy and postal votes and related voting procedures.
- Setting longer lead-times for resolutions/proposals to be tabled for discussion/voting at meetings.

**WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE:** it is fair to say that, having expended a great deal of time and energy on reflecting on *How we do things* and *What we do*, it would be appropriate for the KRA to now focus on actually 'doing it'. However, this requires a willingness on the part of members and in particular, a wider group from among the existing committee members, to share their time and expertise by serving on sub-committees. Without volunteers willing to do the work or share ideas or solutions, criticism from committee members at meetings or residents at AGMs will do little to bring about change and the ability to 'get stuff done'.

The SWG activity ceases at the time of the AGM. A better-structured and organised KRA is one small step towards a more effective KRA which achieves results in all the areas in which it creates sub-committees.

The KRA has an 80 year-plus heritage and, of course, its traditions are to be respected. But, as with all traditions, the KRA, too, has to keep the best and strive to achieve the rest.

## RELATED DOCUMENTS

TO ACCESS ANY OF THE RELATED DOCUMENTS, SIMPLY CLOSE THE FLIP-BOOK AND SELECT A FILE ON THE ORIGINAL NOTICE.

1. ISWG REPORT: IS KRA AT THE CROSSROADS?
2. SWG REMIT AND TIMELINE.
3. VILLAGE QUESTIONNAIRE: RESULTS.
4. VILLAGE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES: ISSUES.
5. VILLAGE QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES: RETAIL.
6. CODE OF CONDUCT.
7. CODE OF FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE.
8. DRAFT CONSTITUTION (TO BE VOTED ON).
9. PLANNING REMIT.
10. ROADS AND TRANSPORT REMIT.
11. MEMBERSHIP REMIT.
12. 2022 AGM DRAFT MINUTES (TO BE VOTED ON).





# PLANNING

## DES CAMBLIN

LAST YEAR both John Lang and Keith Denyer resigned from their KRA role monitoring planning in Kingswood and we are very much indebted to both for their years of hard work on behalf of the community. The monitoring of planning applications was subsequently taken over by a new sub-committee comprising David Floyd, KRA Chair, Valerie Evans and myself, both former Chairs, and Justus van der Spuy. As before, the sub-committee monitors all planning applications and objects where an application is inconsistent with Kingswood planning policy or impacts unduly on residents.

The most important current planning application for the village is that of the Inspired Villages Group for a retirement community of 281 units at the Legal & General site. Although this was approved some time ago subject to conditions, the scheme has been on hold throughout the Covid pandemic and, even now, work on site has yet to commence. We continue to liaise with L&G on this important issue for the village and remain hopeful that the scheme, many aspects of which the KRA negotiated with L&G, will proceed. The application for shops and flats at the station yard site reported last year was successfully opposed, primarily because of concerns over inadequate parking and the potential traffic problems which the scheme would have generated. As a result, the developer has switched back to the housing scheme which was originally worked up for the site and which the KRA supported. As residents will be aware, that development is now well into construction.

Apart from reviewing individual applications, the sub-committee is concerned with changes to the National Planning Policy Framework, Reigate and Banstead Borough Council planning policy and the Local Character Distinctiveness Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document.

A Government White Paper published in August 2020 claimed as one of its aims to 'seek to strengthen enforcement powers and sanctions'. It said: 'We will review and strengthen the existing planning enforcement powers and sanctions available to local planning authorities to ensure they support the new planning system. We will introduce more powers to address intentional unauthorised development, consider higher fines, and look to ways of supporting more enforcement activity.'

Enforcement is an issue which has long been a concern for the KRA and we have seen a number of intentional unauthorised developments where central government policy has, in our view, left all councils lacking adequate powers of restraint, so it is hoped that new legislation may in due course provide the more effective controls which are clearly needed. In addition, the Planning sub-committee has recently been in discussion with the Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (RBBC) regarding the Kingswood Conservation Area. This topic is also under review and we are examining a number of issues including the boundaries of the Conservation Area and the planning conditions it imposes on residents. The KRA is liaising with the three estate companies which have taken over ownership of the private roads in Kingswood to discourage unacceptable planning proposals. In some circumstances, the companies are in a position to use their legal rights as road owners to block unacceptable development and this has already proved an effective deterrent. We also continue to work with the Banstead and District Federation of Residents' Associations on those issues which are a common concern to other local residents' associations in the wider area.



# ROADS & TRANSPORT

## MIKE GIBSON

**ROADWORKS:** there have been fewer to report this year, mainly telecom masts and most, supposedly, with no carriageway incursion listed so notices of these have not been circulated to members.

**TRAFFIC LIGHTS ON THE RAILWAY BRIDGE:** there is no news on the repairs to the bridge at Kingswood station. Many people have reported that it is currently much safer for pedestrians to cross between the station and Woodland Way. I would suggest that we try to keep the lights but get them turned into a properly-established feature to include wider pavements. Please let me know your views - either way - by email to [Mike.Gibson@sky.com](mailto:Mike.Gibson@sky.com).

**POTHoles AND ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE:** the state of the roads has been even worse this winter. The cracks around the patches caused by utility repairs allow water to get under the tarmac and then the frosts force the tarmac up and allow more water in and then there is a big hole. If only Surrey Highways insisted on repairs being over-banded then water would not get in in the first place and the patches would last much longer. Hill Lane is a good example of what can be done.

We are getting together with other residents' associations locally to create a much louder voice than a single association such as our own can create. This is under the auspices of the Banstead Federation which comprises about 12 associations. We will be formulating a series of questions and suggestions for Surrey Highways. Unfortunately, there was very little support for Rebecca Paul's road-funding petition apart from Reigate and Banstead and Surrey Heath.

**SOUTHERN RAILWAY:** the service is very poor but we are not alone. It seems to be a national disgrace. There is a rail users' committee based in Croydon whose remit includes the Tattenham Corner and Caterham lines. Membership of this committee could help to improve matters but we need a volunteer to attend their meetings in Croydon.

**BUSES:** I have tried to get some of the 420 and/or 460 buses to divert off the A217 and down to Kingswood station but I have been told there is no spare time in the schedules for the extra mile needed. This will be revisited when the routes are reviewed.

**VILLAGE PARKING:** this is a perennial problem with half the spaces taken up by shop staff cars. There is one possible solution but that will need to wait until the Legal & General site has finished being redeveloped.

The configuration and number of existing parking bays has been reviewed and Surrey has accepted my suggestions. We are now waiting to hear when these will be implemented. The space outside the Mr Kingswood barber shop, currently without restriction and used by the barber, will be designated a disabled bay. Two spaces outside the Pets' Corner store which used to act as the entrance for Mitsubishi and, therefore, had to be kept clear for vehicles, are currently without restriction. These spaces will be combined with the bays either side to form one continuous bay.

# MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLORS

KINGSWOOD is in the **Chipstead, Kingswood and Woodmansterne** ward of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council (RBBC). The ward is represented by three councillors: Tim Archer, Caroline Neame and Simon Parnall. Kingswood also has a Surrey County Councillor, Rebecca Paul, who also represents **Tadworth (including Preston), Walton on the Hill and Burgh Heath**. Contact details for your RBBC councillors are:

**TIM ARCHER**



[cllr.Archer@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.Archer@reigate-banstead.gov.uk)

07854 175053

**CAROLINE NEAME**



[cllr.Neame@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.Neame@reigate-banstead.gov.uk)

07767 782473

**SIMON PARNALL**



[cllr.Parnall@reigate-banstead.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.Parnall@reigate-banstead.gov.uk)

01737 830888

REIGATE AND BANSTEAD BOROUGH COUNCIL'S responsibilities are for: council tax collection, environmental health, housing, leisure centres, parking enforcement, parks and cemeteries, planning and building control, refuse collection and recycling, and street sweeping.

You can call the council directly on **01737 276000** or, if you wish to report something, go to: **[www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/homepage/76/report\\_it](http://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/homepage/76/report_it)**

Contact details for your Surrey County Councillor are:

**REBECCA PAUL**



[Rebecca.Paul@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Rebecca.Paul@surreycc.gov.uk)

07733 044122

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S responsibilities are for: adult social care, children and family services, community recycling centres, environment, fire and rescue services, public health, libraries, older people, parking regulation, roads and pavements, schools and education, and trading standards.

You can call the council directly on **03456 009009**

If you wish to report an issue go to:

**[www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk)** and follow the links.

# **YOUR BOROUGH COUNCILLORS**

## **MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLORS PARNALL, NEAME & ARCHER**

JUST AS we emerged from the Covid-19 pandemic, our screens were full of the tragedy of the unfolding war in Ukraine. We're proud that many people in Kingswood have opened their homes and welcomed Ukrainian families. The economic effects of the war have been profound and we are all experiencing higher energy costs, food costs and inflation in general as a result. Many in Kingswood have seen rocketing utility bills and this is a time in which we can help ourselves and our neighbours to access energy saving measures - insulation, more efficient boilers and LED lighting being obvious examples. There's some helpful advice on the council's website <https://www.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/cost-of-living>.

The council's housing team moved 32 households into our new social/affordable housing in Redhill in time for Christmas and during December's very cold weather they swung into action again and brought all rough sleepers and street people into night shelters and emergency accommodation.

Planning in Reigate and Banstead is governed both by national law and by our Development Management Plan (DMP) which was approved in 2019 and runs to 2027. This sets out the long-term planning policies which affect us all. The council needs to ensure that the DMP is updated well before 2027 and has already started work on the next version which will, among many other things, encapsulate recent work on climate change and sustainable construction. The new planning policies will involve us all and there will be presentations, formal consultation with residents and lots of opportunities for you to comment.

When a planning application is made for a location near your home you'll see a site notice attached to a lamppost or tree near the site, and those who live adjacent to the site or nearby will receive a letter from the council inviting comment. There's usually plenty of time to do so, so please don't rush: think about what you want to say and then submit your comments which you can do multiple times if you've forgotten something. If you have worries about any planning application then please do get in direct contact with one of your borough councillors - Simon, Caroline or Tim. We have the ability to take any application, however small, to the council's planning committee if that's appropriate and we will ensure that the highest levels of scrutiny are applied as required.

We have provided funding for many local projects through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that we impose on development. Last year we funded the insulation of the village hall roof and you'll probably have noticed the new roof on the Burgh Heath Memorial Hall which was also part-funded from CIL. This year we will be replacing the litter bins in the village with black and gold ones, much more in keeping with the area, and we're keen to hear from any resident who has an idea for what we can do to further improve our shared public space.

In finishing, one thing that it's important for us to mention is that this year sees the introduction of a voter ID requirement if you are voting in person at a polling station anywhere in the country. A UK passport or driving licence, an older person's bus pass, and a range of other documents are acceptable even if they're out of date (but provided the picture still looks like you). For more information and answers to a wide range of questions please take a look at the Electoral Commission's website [www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk).

If you have questions on any of the above, or if you need help on any borough council-related matter, then please don't hesitate to contact us.



# YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

## MESSAGE FROM COUNCILLOR REBECCA PAUL

IT'S HARD to believe that another year has passed since the last AGM but time does indeed fly. It has now been nearly two years since I became your county councillor - and what a privilege it is to represent you at Surrey County Council (SCC). Over the last year, there have been a number of pressing concerns for Kingswood, as follows:

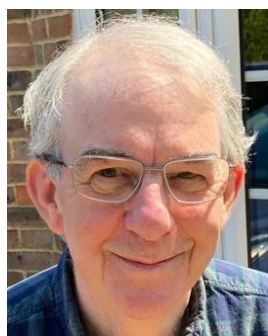
**ROAD MAINTENANCE:** due to the recent weather, we have seen a spate of potholes across Surrey. There is still a backlog in terms of repairs but I'm pleased to say that Surrey Highways has significantly increased the resource allocated - rather than the usual 8-12 repair teams they now have 23 teams working day and night. Following my fairer road-funding campaign, I continue to encourage SCC to invest more into preventative road maintenance. I'm pleased to see that this has yielded results, with SCC accelerating £50m of capital investment for road resurfacing. In recent weeks, I have also written to Transport Secretary Mark Harper to request again that he reconsiders the overall funding algorithm, but unfortunately no positive response has been forthcoming. I will continue to raise this important issue.

**ROAD SAFETY:** I have been greatly saddened by the two recent fatalities on the A217. Many of you have expressed concern about road safety on this stretch of the A217 and have suggested that a crossing may be a sensible addition. I have written to Surrey Highways and the relevant executive director accordingly, and the road safety engineering team has considered safety in light of these recent accidents. Unfortunately, Highways currently has no plans to install a crossing at or near this site, however I fully appreciate the strength of feeling and will continue to raise this matter at every opportunity.

**ULEZ EXPANSION:** I am sure many of you will be concerned about the Mayor of London's intention to expand the Ultra-Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) to the Surrey border from this August. I'm pleased to say that the relevant Cabinet member has written to London Mayor Sadiq Khan informing him that Surrey officers have been instructed to halt discussions on signage locations or a Section 8 agreement (permission to place equipment on Surrey's highways) until meaningful mitigation is offered and a constructive conversation has been had between Transport for London (TfL) and the county council. SCC has also, alongside four other London councils, initiated proceedings for a judicial review to challenge the Mayor's and TfL's decision to expand the ULEZ.

Finally, it's just left for me to say thank you to the Kingswood Residents' Association and the residents of Kingswood for all your support over the last year. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need my help.





# MEMBERSHIP

## DAVE SAUNDERS

BEING A member of any organisation means you are interested in what that organisation does and, more importantly, what it can do for you. In particular, the KRA works to protect our collective interests in what happens in Kingswood by working with the borough council and county council to monitor and - where appropriate - comment on planning applications, concerns in respect of roads and public transport, and security. Using our comprehensive email distribution system and our lively website, and working closely with local councillors, the police and other local organisations, we are able to inform members about anything from potential security issues to troublesome roadworks to interesting local activities and, in every way that we can, ensure that Kingswood remains a unique and special place to live.

What's more, membership of the KRA costs just £5 a year and, apart from paying your subscription, you don't have to do anything else to enjoy all the benefits of membership. Be assured that your contact details will be kept secure for KRA use only according to the GDPR rules. If your membership is due for renewal in the coming year, you will get a renewal notice from me and I respectfully ask that you renew as soon as possible or arrange a £5 annual standing order - that way you don't have to worry about future renewal dates! So why not fill in the form below or email us and join us today. We promise you, it's money well-spent.

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**You can pay your membership by £5 annual standing order or £20 for four years' subscription.**

### JOIN and PAY ONLINE

GO TO [www.kingswoodvillage.org](http://www.kingswoodvillage.org) and click on KRA in the top toolbar then 'Becoming a KRA Member or Renewing your Membership'. All details are there of the many and various paying options, including using PayPal.

### PAY BY STANDING ORDER, BACS OR PAYPAL

EMAIL your details (see below) to the Membership Secretary, Dave Saunders at [dave.saunders@btinternet.com](mailto:dave.saunders@btinternet.com). He will forward the KRA bank details so you can either set up a £5 annual standing order or transfer £20 to cover four years' membership.

### PAY BY CHEQUE

COMPLETE the form below and send it with a £20 cheque, made payable to KRA, to:

Membership Secretary,  
3 Oakdene,  
Off Copleigh Drive,  
Kingswood KT20 6BN

NAME.....

ADDRESS (inc. postcode) .....

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TEL.....

EMAIL.....

SIGNATURE.....

*By joining, you consent to the KRA holding your contact details, which will be used solely by the association and not passed on to third parties.*

**Dave Saunders**  
**Membership Secretary – KRA**  
[dave.saunders@btinternet.com](mailto:dave.saunders@btinternet.com) or 01737 350718