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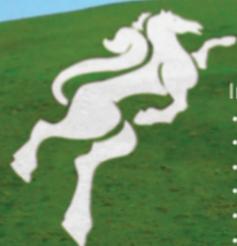
**Epsom & Ewell RA  
Councillor Website**

For news & information  
on local issues see

**WWW.EEGRA.ORG.UK**

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**Upcoming events in and around the town**

**The Epsom Common Day** on Sunday 29th July: Live music, stalls & family attractions on Stamford Green to mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Epsom Well, the discovery site of 'Epsom Salts' back in 1618.

**Film Festival:** You will no longer need to go to Cannes as Epsom has its very own International Film Festival from Friday 26th to Sunday 28th October. For more info see @satisfiedeye or <http://seiff.shp.media/>

**Sunset Cinema** presents "Top Gun" on Saturday 11th August in Epsom College gardens. Gates 7pm; Film 8.45pm. Food/drink available. Tickets £15 plus booking fee. <https://thelittleboxoffice.com/sunsetcinema>

**Charity Golf Day** in aid of the Mayor's charities Monday 23rd July. Epsom Downs Golf Club. Teams of 4 £50 per head. Tea/coffee bacon roll from 9am. Late lunch and prizes. Email douglasby@gmail.com

**Do you have any issues or concerns you would like to raise with us?**

Your Town Ward RA Councillors and Epsom Town RA committee officers are happy to visit any Town Ward resident to discuss any issues or problems. Town Ward Councillors will be holding their next surgery on **22<sup>nd</sup> August from 6 - 8 pm at the Ebbisham Centre** (cafe area).

Please contact us at [EpsomTownTeamRA@gmail.com](mailto:EpsomTownTeamRA@gmail.com). Follow us on [www.facebook.com/etwra/](http://www.facebook.com/etwra/)  
Tony Axelrod 07986 947974 Neil Dallen 01372 732793 Tella Wormington 07789 296634

**How we use your data**

The data we hold about our members is principally to allow us to monitor and administer membership of ETRA, such as contact information and subscriptions details. We will never share any personal information with any 3rd party, however, we may want to let you know of any local issues or events that may be of interest to you as a resident of Epsom Town, and this may include information on events etc. being organised by select 3rd parties. We may contact you by email to advise you of important information relating to your subscriptions, however, unless you have given consent to receive our newsletters or other communications by email, we will not be able to continue to send those to you. To avoid missing out, if you are content to hear from us from time to time by email please could you indicate your consent by completing as appropriate the subscription form in this issue. **Thank you for your continued support of ETRA.**

**Please complete this form with your cheque / cash or confirmation of your standing order.**

You are a resident of Epsom Town Ward

**Join Epsom Town Residents' Association** and help us make the Town an even better place to live.

**Annual Subscription £5.00** (to the Membership Secretary, 32 Wyeths Road, KT17 4EB or just let us know, we will be pleased to call to collect).

**Standing Orders Preferred.** Please use your address as reference and email us at [epsomtwnra@gmail.com](mailto:epsomtwnra@gmail.com)

**Account** 15483466 Sort code 23-05-80 **Bank** MetroBank **Ac Name** Epsom Town Residents Assn.

Name..... Address.....

Email address\*.....

\*I/we wish to continue to receive email communication regarding local events or issues from the ETRA committee YES / NO

\*I/we wish to continue to receive email communication regarding events or other information provided by 3rd parties which may be of interest to residents of Epsom YES / NO



**Town Cryer**  
The Newsletter of your  
Epsom Town Residents'  
Association (ETRA)  
July 2018

Please see our website for your Town Team's  
Top Ten Aims for the next two years

<http://www.epsomtwnra.org.uk>  
Twitter @epsomtwnteamRA  
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**Committee Report**

**Town Ward Mayor**

After nearly 50 years a Town Ward Councillor is Mayor of the Borough: Cllr Neil Dallen is honoured to have been appointed & is looking forward to visiting as many people & organisations as possible, who contribute so much to make Epsom & Ewell such a great place. If you would like to invite the Mayor to any event or occasion please contact Neil. Neil's charities for his Mayoral year are Girlguiding UK (in Epsom & Ewell), Talking Newspaper for the Blind & Work Stress Solutions (WSS); three commendable but very different Epsom charities. His charity committee will be organising many fundraising events during the year & would welcome your support.



**Local planning applications**

**Police Station site:** An application has been received & discussions are taking place to try to get an improved design as well as allowing sensible use of the land & of the adjoining site.

**The old Post Office:** An application for conversion to a pub/restaurant has been received. Discussions are taking place regarding the use, loss of the retail & noise / disturbance.

**Bradford House 39 A East St:** An application has been received for conversion to offices at ground floor & student accommodation on the upper floors.

**17 High Street:** An application for a change of use from retail to a KFC was refused by officers under delegated powers.

All Town Ward Applications can be viewed via the EEBC Planning portal ([eplanning.epsom-ewell.gov.uk](http://eplanning.epsom-ewell.gov.uk)). If you would like to know more about any local planning application that concerns you, please contact us & we will do our best to assist.

**Age Concern Epsom & Ewell Men's Group**

If you are you around retirement age (or older) & would like to meet up with & share activities with like-minded men who have similar interests, or to volunteer, the new Men's Group would love to hear from you.  
Tel 01372732463  
or email [ian.parsons@ageconcernepsom.org.uk](mailto:ian.parsons@ageconcernepsom.org.uk)

**Community Litter Picks**



Thank you all who helped with our litter picks in the town including the staff from McDonald's.

Do let us know if you would be able to help with further events.

**Depot Road Recycling**

Now that Surrey have closed the Blenheim Road site on Tuesdays & Wednesdays, **did you know that you can recycle small electrical items (mobiles, kettles, toasters, radios, hairdryers ...)** in Depot Road car park (by the other recycling banks)? Items will be taken to specialist recycling companies for dismantling & recycling.

**Reggie the Resident says:**



Highways budgets, Streetlights, Children's Centres, Recycling Centres, The Hub: What will be next in the Surrey County Council cuts?

## Councillors' Report

### Negative Revenue Support Grant (RSG) Taxing residents & penalising good management

Our Residents Association led Council is one of a small number no longer receiving any RSG from the Conservative Government. Two years ago over £400k was received to help fund services, but for 2018/2019 it is nothing.

The Council has made over £1million of efficiency savings in the last 18 months & this year again set a balanced budget, with no use of reserves & importantly no cut in services. In fact we have improved key services, such as the new weekly bin collection, upgrades to our route call vehicles & new shop mobility scooters. We have also refurbished tennis courts & the pond in Rosebery Park. All this has been achieved whilst keeping the Epsom and Ewell Council portion of council tax to the third lowest in Surrey.

However, the Government have decided that in 2019/2020 removing the RSG is not enough & that your Epsom and Ewell Council should actually pay the Government £625,000. This is what the Government calls Negative RSG and what we call a tax on our residents. It equates to a 12% rise in council tax.

We believe that this is unfair & unreasonable & should be challenged. Epsom Council has written to the relevant Government minister asking him to justify this tax on Epsom residents & to call for a change in policy. We will provide updates on any response, and are considering next steps.

Please make your views known to your Conservative MP!

### Local plan Housing Targets - the challenge!

The Government wants Epsom & Ewell to build 579 new houses a year (11,580 over 20 years i.e. a 30-40% size increase for the borough). Where can these houses be built? Epsom & Ewell is the smallest & most densely populated borough in Surrey. 44% of land in Epsom & Ewell is already built on (UK av. is 6%). Another 42% is Green Belt (40% of which is publicly accessible open space).

**We do not have enough land available to meet these targets.**

Councillors fully accept the need for the right homes in the right places, provided they are appropriate & accompanied by appropriate infrastructure such as schools, roads & services. However Government planning rules & targets do not recognise this – they take no account of what is possible or sustainable for the people who live here now, or the additional 30,000 people who will live in new housing.

Councillors are working hard to get the Government to accept lower numbers without imposing planning penalties on the Council (the Government needs to be reasonable in recognising the work done, the positive position the Council is taking regarding future housing development, & the genuine constraints that the borough faces), but any compromise will still mean high figures & some hard decisions.

The Council is responding to the consultation on the new draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which increases the penalties for failing to achieve the housing targets & also can require councils to build homes to address unmet housing need in other surrounding areas!

Please see our separate leaflet about the Government Housing targets & the Local Plan, and see [www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/localplan](http://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/localplan) for more information. We will continue to give updates as we hear.

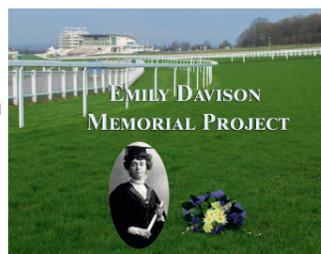
### What matters to you in your local area?

Did you know that Epsom & Ewell is the only Independent run Council in England & has been like this for 81 years? If you would like to get involved in deciding local matters, shaping the future of the Borough & helping residents with a problem which is solvable by the services provided by the council, why not put yourself forward as a **Residents' Association Local Councillor** for your town?

It is interesting, worthwhile, fulfilling & there is a real sense of achievement for your community. If you would like to know more, please contact us.

### Statue in the town centre to commemorate Emily Wilding Davison

Your councillors are actively supporting the community initiative to fund & place a statue of suffragette Emily Davison in Epsom Town centre, in the 100 year anniversary of women gaining a vote. Watch this space.



### Horsley Close JAG (Joint Action Group)

Antisocial Behaviour (ASB) including drug use & dealing; inconsiderate taxi waiting; urinating & defecation caused the police to set up a JAG. We have already had some success:

- . litter cleared from the corner by Network Rail (it already needs to be cleared again!).
- . car park cleaned & a promise of regular cleans
- . more frequent parking enforcement (not sustainable long term).

It is vital that any ASB is reported to either police or local councillors.

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## County News

### Epsom Hospital Land Sell off update

Borough Councillors have demanded a halt to selling land on the Epsom Hospital site. We say that there is a need for additional health & medical services, in particular: a new acute unit serving the needs of Epsom & Ewell & East Surrey; a new mental health acute hospital (since the closure of Elgar & Delius wards on the Epsom Hospital site early last year, there is now no provision in Epsom & Ewell or East Surrey); services to replace those currently provided at West Park Hospital. We have stated our view that the cost of repairs & renovations to Epsom Hospital buildings should be funded without having to sell any part of the existing estate.

### "Plan E" South Street two way - and the Market Place

Surrey County Council are responsible for the "Plan E" works & as Borough Councillors we have received updates from Surrey & published these in good faith - however, currently we have no confidence in the information we are receiving. We reported 21 issues 2 months ago & still await answers. We were dismayed by the recent plans we have been shown for the Market Place & have called for a halt on any work there unless SCC confirm they will deliver what they originally committed to, a market place that we can all be proud of. For latest information search online for 'Surrey Plan E'.

### Welcome to the new Surrey Police Borough Inspector for Epsom & Ewell, Joe Easterbrook

See [www.surrey.police.uk/epsom-ewell/](http://www.surrey.police.uk/epsom-ewell/) for more information.

Are you signed up to 'In The Know'? - a free police information service with crime updates, crime prevention advice & news? <https://www.intheknow.community/>

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