

# GRAVENEY WARD NEWSLETTER

Jan/Feb 2019

From Local Ward Councillors  
Tobin Byers, John Dehaney and Linda Kirby

## **PUBLIC MEETING**

**Please note this is an afternoon meeting  
with a different format**

**2pm Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019**

**NORTH EAST MITCHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE  
Edenvale Playspace, off Woodland Way, Mitcham CR4 2DZ**

**WORLEY HALL – NEMCA ANNEXE**

**2 – 2.30 Graveney Police Ward Panel  
2.30 Soap Box – raise local issues with  
councillors**

**MAIN NEMCA HALL**

**2.30–4pm STREET CHAMPIONS DROP-IN**

**MP Siobhain McDonagh, Councillors and Police will be present.**

We want to take pride in our local community but currently things are not working well in terms of fly-tipping and street cleanliness in Graveney Ward.

We would welcome support from local residents to assist us in becoming the ward's eyes and ears. Many of you already do this and we are grateful to you for that. We're looking to set up a team of volunteers from each street to work with your local councillors, the police, the Council and Veolia (the contractor), to improve the cleanliness of our ward.

Reporting concerns is a key part of this but we need your views to give us an insight into what particular issues affect your road. This will help us, collectively, to solve the problems.

The drop-in will be open from 2.30 – 4 to give residents an opportunity to call by and share their views and hopefully register to become a Street Champion for their road.

If you are unable to attend but are interested, please contact Linda Kirby  
[linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk](mailto:linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk); Mobile: 07946 533 374

## COUNCIL BUDGET UPDATE

In March, the council will agree its budget for the forthcoming financial year.

The council sets a budget on a four-year basis. The current four-year plan – the ‘Medium Term Financial Strategy’ – shows a gap in the budget of over £18 million by 2022/23, due to significant reductions in the money that the council receives from central Government. The council has a legal obligation to set a balanced budget. As such, the council has to find ways to save money or ways to generate new income in order to meet this shortfall.

These reductions are on top of the significant reduction in Government money that the council has already experienced in recent years. Like all local authorities, the council is having to find ways to make savings across all departments in order to deliver a balanced budget.

The council's largest area of controllable spend is adult social care. In common with other councils, the demand for adult social care in Merton has increased in recent years, at the same time as the money available to pay for it has been decreasing. This year, similar pressures are being seen in children's services, which provides care packages for some of the most vulnerable children in the borough.

There is widespread agreement that there is too little funding available for councils to provide adult social care across the country. The Local Government Association which represents councils estimates that there is a shortfall of £3.5 billion between now and 2025. The Government had been expected to publish a Green Paper setting out proposals to reform the system of funding for adult social care last year. At present, it is not known when this will be published.

The council – like all other local authorities – will have to continue to make savings in order to balance its budget until new funding is in place. In making these decisions, the council will continue to do all it again to protect the most vulnerable in the borough, including children and adults in need of social care.

## IMPROVING AIR QUALITY AROUND LINKS PRIMARY SCHOOL

A new, experimental safety / air quality scheme is about to be piloted at Links School. Adjacent roads to the school will be closed to **non-residential traffic** during school opening and closing hours, term time only.

Consultation on the effectiveness of the scheme will be carried out with residents before a decision is taken to permanently install it. The scheme is one of a number of measures that the council is taking to improve air quality across the borough.

## HOUSES OF MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Thanks to everyone who reported HMOs to us. We have visited Housing Staff to discuss the high level of HMOs in Graveney Ward. 14 registered and 37 referred for investigation. With almost 50% of the Council's budget cut by Government, adequate staffing level in most services is now a major issue. Staffing in this area is particularly small. However, councilors will continue to press for inspections as soon as possible.

Discussion is also taken place through the Borough Advisory Committee about an Article 4 direction to prevent any further HMOs developing in the area. This process is likely to be lengthy though. Also discussed: HMO Landlords should pay additional fees for waste collection as waste levels are very high in these homes. This is being investigated.

**Crime Statistics For Graveney Ward  
10/7/2018 to 10/01/2019**

ROAD	BURGLARY	MOTOR VEHICLE CRIME	ROBBERY	TOTAL
ASCOT ROAD	0	0	1	1
ASHBOURNE ROAD	1	3	0	4
BEECHOLME AVENUE	1	1	1	3
BOSCOMBE ROAD	0	1	0	1
BRUCE ROAD	2	1	0	3
CAITHNESS ROAD	0	1	0	1
CARLINGFORD GARDENS	0	0	0	0
CROMER ROAD	0	3	0	3
DEAL ROAD	0	0	0	0
EASTBOURNE ROAD	0	2	0	2
EDENVALE CLOSE	0	0	0	0
EDENVALE ROAD	0	1	0	1
EDGEHILL ROAD	2	3	0	5
ELMHURST AVENUE	1	1	1	3
FIGGES ROAD	0	0	0	0
FRINTON ROAD	0	0	0	0
GARDEN AVENUE	0	1	0	1
GORRINGE PARK AVENUE	0	1	0	1
GRENFELL ROAD	1	1	2	4
GUNTON ROAD	0	0	0	0
HAILSHAM ROAD	0	0	0	0
HEATON ROAD	0	0	0	0
HILL ROAD	0	0	0	0
INGLEMERE ROAD	1	0	0	1
IPSWICH ROAD	0	0	0	0
JERSEY ROAD	0	0	0	0
LINKS ROAD	2	3	1	6
LONDON ROAD	4	0	0	4
MELROSE AVENUE	2	6	0	8
MILTON ROAD	0	1	0	1
MITCHAM IND ESTATE	0	0	0	0
MITCHAM ROAD	0	1	1	2
PARK AVENUE	2	2	0	4
RIDGE ROAD	0	0	0	0
RURAL WAY	0	1	0	1
RUSTIC AVENUE	0	0	0	0
SEELY ROAD	1	4	1	6
SIRDAR ROAD	0	0	0	0
ST BARNABAS ROAD	1	5	0	6
ST. JAMES ROAD	0	0	0	0
STANLEY GARDENS	0	0	0	0
STANLEY ROAD	1	0	0	1
STREATHAM ROAD	3	2	2	7
THE BUNGALOWS	0	1	0	1
THIRSK ROAD	0	2	0	2
TYNEMOUTH ROAD	0	2	0	2
VECTIS ROAD	0	1	0	1
WOODLAND WAY	0	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>87</b>

## FRIENDS OF EDENVLE PLAYSPACE AND VECTIS GARDENS

Bulb planting took place in December in Edenvale. Thanks to the volunteers who took part. Vectis Garden fence painting and bulb plating scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> January. We hope we can attract a good team of volunteers.

More work is planned for both these green spaces in the Spring. If you want to get involved please contact Linda Kirby on 07946 533 374 or email [linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk](mailto:linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk)

## COUNCILLORS' WARD TOUR AND MEETING WITH VEOLIA

Graveney Councillors tour the ward each month and report their findings for action.

### December Tour found:

37 FLYTIPS    LEAVES STILL ON PAVEMENTS IN 6 STREETS  
LARGE NO. OF POORLY PRESENTED WASTE BINS NOT COLLECTED    4 POT HOLES  
SEVERAL UNWANTED WHEELIE BINS STILL NOT COLLECTED    ALL GRAFFITI    6 BLOCKED DRAINS  
SEVERAL STREETS BELOW THE CLEANLINESS STANDARD.

Meeting with Veolia to discuss special waste collection for flats in Grenfell Road. New arrangements agreed. Tenants will be visited to discuss new system

Removal of graffiti – Commitment to remove all graffiti. Shop shutter graffiti to be discussed with business owners and agreement reached for removal.

A request for additional resources to be focused on Graveney. Discussion between Council and Contractor continuing on this matter. A Monitoring officer is now dedicated to the ward.

## GRAVENEY WARD TEAM



Police Sergeant: Dean Croft  
Police Constables: Nigel Smith and Naomi Townsend  
Police Community Safety Officer: Bradley Jewell

020 8721 2724

[MertonGraveney.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:MertonGraveney.snt@met.police.uk)

Dial 999 in an emergency or 101 if your call is not an

## USEFUL NUMBERS FOR YOU TO KEEP

Graffiti, Refuse, Bulky Waste, Street Cleaning, Flytipping	020 8274 4902
Nuisance and abandoned vehicles	020 8545 3170
Registering to vote	020 8545 3407

Or online at: [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

## COUNCILLORS' SURGERY

**GOT A PROBLEM? LET US KNOW ABOUT IT!**

We have a monthly surgery at North East Mitcham Community Association, Edenvale Playspace, off Woodland Way, Mitcham, CR4 2DZ  
1st Saturday of the month between 10.00 – 11.00am

If it is urgent, please contact: 020 8545 3424 for an appointment or email

[Linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk](mailto:Linda.kirby@merton.gov.uk); [john.dehaney@merton.gov.uk](mailto:john.dehaney@merton.gov.uk); [tobin.byers@merton.gov.uk](mailto:tobin.byers@merton.gov.uk)

We also tour the ward each month to pick up issues and report them on to officers for action.