

Woodcote (Epsom) Residents Society

Councillor update on Borough and County

Steven McCormick

Report covering up to November 13th 2024.

Chalk Pit -

A meeting was held with SCC officers 4th November; planning items are unlikely to come to committee before December 2024.

It looks like the buildings on site are moving closer to the actual plans.

Noise from the site as reported by residents, appear related to skip drops, bangs and crashes.

SCC officers are to meet with CEO of EEBC shortly.

Actions from my side are to reach out to the landowner of Chalk Pit and see if a forum can be created with the leaseholders with a view to more sensitive considerate use of the site.

I have also asked for HGV-restricted signage to be put up at the roundabout between College Road and Alexandra Road; a HGV watch group will then be set up with residents. I will also communicate with the skip lorry companies to ensure they're aware of the recommended directions.

Epsom Downs -

Downs House training facility will be online in January with George Baker taking up residence. An extra 50 horses in training to add to the numbers in the area.

Adam West is leaving Epsom and moving to France. Loretta Lodge is being explored by other new trainers I believe.

Lee Carter didn't renew his training license.

A planning application has been received from Brett Johnson at Cedar Lodge to turn some racing stables into accommodation for racing staff.

Chill & Grill food van is in place at the Lookout car park; finally. Their hours are flexible as they figure out their needs and what works for them. Seems popular already and a good step in the right direction I feel.

Local Plan -

A verbal update on this item at the meeting.

Licensing Planning Policy Committee (LPPC) papers were released last night that address the regulation 19 version of the local plan.

Planning -

Planning this week and Fairview Road is on the agenda. The application is for 3 temporary accommodation units for an initial period of 5 years.

Community Infrastructure Level (CIL) -

The recommendations from LPPC went to Strategy & Resources committee for final approval last night.

At the LPPC meeting, Julie Morris got support to include the Martial Arts Centre, which wasn't originally selected by the CIL working group. Questions on conflict as she put the app in.

At S&R last night the additional item for Martial Arts centre wasn't supported by 4 votes to 3.

Audit & Scrutiny -

The upcoming meeting, is this Thursday evening. Q2 revenue report shows an increase in homelessness spending of £100k in q2 to £475k. Other items of note are that Environment has also overspent against budget but these figures are being offset by extra income from interest elsewhere.

Items for scrutiny consideration are also planned to come to the committee shortly. Items on procurement and the strategic asset management plan are also being considered for Scrutiny.

Highstreet Moped issue -

Deliveroo wrote to me following the SCC motion asking for a meeting. I have replied and no answer as yet.

Further work is going on with the landowners of Epsom Square, a verbal update on this as well please.

I am also bringing a motion to EEBC full council to mirror that brought to Surrey County Council.

A lot of work to follow up and progress this issue.

SCC - Audit and Governance Committee

The next meeting is on 20th November, papers are not yet available.

SCC - Resource and Performance Select Committee

Deep dive into the budget at SCC completed. I led a workstream into IT-focused spending with recommendations made to the cabinet.

All budget deep dives are complete and recommendations made to the cabinet.

County Council Elections 2025

It appears all candidates have been selected. Comms and confirmations are due to come out. I have a meeting with Eber and John B. today to discuss strategy and plans going forward.

The meeting took place and a follow-up meeting on 4th December to include all candidates and revert back to SCORA and RA's with the plan and strategy.

Some options to focus on for the SCC election are below:

The importance they placed on each of 11 outcomes, based on the Community Vision for Surrey in 2030 and Organisation Strategy 2023 – 2028:

1. Better roads and pavements
2. Providing care for adults and children who need us most
3. Making our communities safer
4. Better public transport connections for easier, more predictable journeys
5. Enabling people of all ages to access education and skills
6. Promoting better health and wellbeing for all residents
7. Tackling climate change and protecting Surrey's countryside and biodiversity
8. Reducing waste and increasing recycling
9. Reinvigorating town centres and high streets
10. Stronger community relations through local community networks and support
11. Supporting local businesses to prosper and grow the economy

Discussion with WERS to get input and engagement on what issues are important to our residents from a SCC point of view.