



#### WESTERHAM TOWN COUNCIL

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Our office is open Monday – Friday 9.30am -1pm

Chairman: Alan Wesley

Town Clerk: Angela Howells

Deputy Clerk: Debbie Marshall

Assistant Clerk: Deborah Rogers

Welcome to Westerham Town Council's first news page in TN16. Each month we will be highlighting some of the key news and events affecting Westerham and Crockham Hill. And in this our first edition, we also include a useful insert to 'cut out and keep' giving information about your Councillors, and contact details both for them and for other organisations and services you may need.

### **A sad day for Westerham**

Christmas Eve brought tragedy to our town, when a car crashed through the window of Costa Coffee resulting in one lady losing her life and 5 others sustaining injuries needing hospitalisation. We extend our condolences to the bereaved family, and our thoughts and support to those who were in any way affected. While the cause of the accident may not be known for some time, the Council will be working with KCC to see how road safety in the town can be improved.

### **NEW Citizens Advice for Westerham**

Starting from 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at Westerham Hall, Quebec Avenue. Advice sessions will run on Wednesdays from 9:30am to 12.30pm. Drop-in or by appointment. To make an appointment please phone the Edenbridge Office on 03000 422 888.

### **Your views please!**

Elected in May last year, the new Council is putting together its strategy for the next four years. So it needs the views of those live, work or visit the town. A short questionnaire is being distributed to organisations and to locations around the town asking for your priorities for the Council's plan. Please look out for them, fill them in and get them back to the Council either direct or via one of the collection boxes by **12<sup>th</sup> February**. The questionnaire is also available on-line at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Westerhamconsultation> **And there's a prize of Squerrys champagne for one lucky respondent!**

### **Thank you**

To all those who contributed to the 2015 Christmas lights, which were by common consent, the best ever.



**Apothecary  
Design Gallery  
Grace Hair Design  
The Court Group  
Zenamania**

**Barbers of East Street  
Domecrest (NISA)  
Ibbett Mosely  
Mr and Mrs O'Neill**

**Deli De Luca  
Flawless Jewellers  
Prelude  
Joy & Alan Taylor-Smith**

In addition the following businesses provided, and paid for, electricity:

**Amelia Rose, Ruarch Kitchens, The Kings Arms, Nationwide Building Society, The Court Group, Westerham Cyclery and Jane Hunter**

Thanks as well to Ashton Taylor-Smith for his tree at the Manor House and Jane Hunter for her tree at Churchgate.

### **Moorhouse Planning Application refused**

At its meeting on 17 December, Tandridge District Council Planning Committee voted overwhelmingly to reject Roxhill Development's application to develop four plots at the Moorhouse Tile site, the first into a distribution depot.

Westerham Town Council objected on the grounds of:

- Unacceptable increase in traffic on to the A 25, and the developers' misleading traffic projections and comparisons
- Unacceptable damage to the environment of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and to Westerham's heritage
- Unacceptable increase in air pollution in an area which already exceeds by 25% the current maximum level
- Unrealistic job creation figures

It persuaded both KCC and SDC to change their initial 'no objection' and join all the other objecting organisations and agencies in opposing the application.

While there will at some stage undoubtedly be some development on the site, the Council is encouraged by the coordination and cooperation between so many objecting groups and hopes that there will be a major rethink by the site owners, the Titsey Estate and their developers on what might be proposed next and that they will consult constructively with all affected parties. It will be watching closely what happens next. Read the full objection and subsequent Press Release at [www.westerhamtowncouncil.gov.uk/moorhouse-planning-application-refused/](http://www.westerhamtowncouncil.gov.uk/moorhouse-planning-application-refused/)

### **LED street lighting for Westerham**

The programme is underway to convert Westerham's street lighting to LED technology, which uses less energy, is more reliable and needs less maintenance. The 'heritage lanterns' along the High Street, Fullers Hill, Vicarage Hill and The Green have already been converted using warm white lights. The feasibility of converting the remaining Council owned lights in the town is being investigated this year.



### **February half term FREE Family Fun session**

Wondering what to do with the kids during half term? Then come along to Westerham Hall between 10am and 1pm on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February. Funded by the Town Council there will be fun activities for all under 12.

### **Barley Charity**

This charity, established 'to give grants for any charitable purpose for the general benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Westerham, for which provision is not made out of rates, taxes or other public funds', invites applications for grants. Applications should be received by the Town Clerk **no later than 31 March 2016**.

### **Town Council meetings in January and February**

Council meetings are open to all: the first ten minutes of every meeting are reserved for members of the public to raise issues with Councillors, and all are welcome. All meetings begin at 7.30pm except for Planning which takes place at 9.30am

January 25<sup>th</sup> Full Council meeting

February 1<sup>st</sup> Highways and Lighting Committee meeting

February 4<sup>th</sup> Planning and Development Committee meeting

February 8<sup>th</sup> Youth and Community Committee meeting

February 18<sup>th</sup> Planning and Development Committee meeting