Walton and Tadworth Preservation Society

Newsletter – Issue 1 25 April 2024



Dear Resident,

We hope you will by now have heard that the planning application for a change of use of the field in Chequers Lane for a travellers' caravan site has been refused by the RBBC Planning Department, without the need to go to the full Planning Committee.

The Planning Department's report is very comprehensive (25 pages!) and can be seen in full on the <u>RBBC Planning Portal</u> (ref 23/02680). It is also available to read at the TWRA website <u>here</u>.

The applicant now has 6 months in which to lodge an appeal - and **we fully expect them to do so**, based on experience of similar applications, so the issue has absolutely **NOT** gone away!

Please bear in mind that this is only a first step on what will very likely be a long, drawn out-process.

A Charity formed by the Community for the Community.

At the meeting in January, it was proposed that a working party should be formed to set up the charity and enable the community to donate and raise money to buy parcels of land, and this was unanimously welcomed by the community.

You will hopefully by now have heard that the <u>Walton and Tadworth Preservation Society</u> has been formed by the community, and a charity of the same name is being formed - Charity Commission application no. 5240287

The charity has been formed solely to help protect our Green Belt land and the villages of Walton and Tadworth, for the benefit of everyone living in the area. It plans to follow the approach of similar and very successful ventures in both Chipstead and Kingswood.

The Society's flyer is available to read online, here.

Our Village in Your Hands

Some money has already been raised but the time has now come to ask those of you who are willing to help protect Walton and Tadworth to make your contribution.

We need to raise around £300,000, which will be used to buy a 14-acre parcel at the edge of Howard Close, running down behind the proposed developments in Chequers Lane thus preventing further possible spread for ever more.

How to Donate

There are several ways to donate.

- <u>Jumblebee</u> is a crowd-funding website where you can donate to the charity.
- Cheque payments, payable to "Walton and Tadworth Preservation Society" can be paid in at the following locations:
 - o Kennedys' Estate Agents in Walton Street, Walton on the Hill
 - o Walton News Post office in Walton Street, Walton on the Hill
 - o Shelvers Pharmacy in Shelvers Way, Tadworth
 - o Walton Pharmacy in Walton Street, Walton on the Hill
- Online donations via direct bank transfer can be paid directly to Walton and Tadworth Preservation Society, using these bank details:

HSBC Bank

Sort code: 40-26-12

Account Number: 72301458

Many of you have said that you would like to donate. Now is the time - we need to raise funds as quickly as possible to be certain of securing the land in question.

A Gift Aid form can be <u>downloaded here</u>, which will boost your donation by 25% if you are a taxpayer. If you would kindly complete it and email it back to <u>keepwaltongreen@yahoo.com</u> at the same time as you make your donation, we would be most grateful.

We have always said that if we do not raise enough money to make a material difference then we will refund people less any banking costs incurred.

So, if you are willing and able to give as much as you can afford, your contribution will be very gratefully received. Many people have asked how much they need to give. There is no real answer to that. If 300 people were each able to give £1000 then phase 1 would be complete, but any contribution of any size will of course help.

Please also spread the word, forward this to anyone you think should see it and please mention it to people as you meet them - we are trying to reach the entire community and time is now of the essence.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR DONATION.

As a final note, some people have commented that the website name is very Walton focussed. This whole venture was put together very quickly and it was always intended that the formation of this charity was for the benefit of the both villages. At some point we will look to change the website name but this is not possible in the short term.

Let's make this work for us all!

From the Walton and Tadworth Preservation Society, supported by the Tadworth & Walton Residents Association and the Walton Village Forum

Charity Trustees: Robert Lee, Tony Chalkley, Marilyn Ridgewell, Mark Digby, Lewis Woodward, Kerry Heyes, Jeff Temple