

## TWRA REPORTS

### Tribune Magazine

Note the TWRA Tribune magazine should be distributed to all households in the TWRA catchment area during the next two weeks. Please use the contact form on the TWRA web site [www.TWRA.org.uk](http://www.TWRA.org.uk) if you do not receive one or reply to this bulletin giving your postal address details. There is a link to an electronic version at the end of this bulletin.

### A statement from TWRA Chair Jeff Temple

#### Important Information about this week's East Surrey Council elections (Long read)

This is the first election of councillors to the East Surrey Council, a unitary authority that will replace our existing Borough and County Councils. Polling stations for Tadworth and Walton residents are as usual St John's Church Hall, The Avenue, Tadworth and The Community Centre, Breech Lane, Walton on the Hill. They will be open from 7.00 am until 10.00 pm. Please remember that you must bring photographic identification to be able to vote.

We hope that as many of you as possible participate in this democratic exercise to elect candidates with the experience and skills to influence this new authority and ensure that the views of residents and Residents' Associations are fully represented.

On 26th March Reigate & Banstead Borough Council voted to create a new parish council in the north of the borough, to be called the Banstead & The Villages Council. Unfortunately, at that time, RBBC had lost the power to create a new parish, as a result of administrative oversight. Had it wished to do so it should have acted before March 10th, due to legal changes that came into force on that date, associated with the dissolution of RBBC in April 2027 and the creation of the new East Surrey Council. It now passes to the new East Surrey Council to decide whether to create the new parish council, or not.

TWRA believes that the formation of a new Parish Council is an important local issue in the interest of improving local democracy and has previously organised local consultation meetings where the vast majority of those attending indicated that they were in favour. With this background, The TWRA tried to contact all eleven candidates standing in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward for election on May 7th to East Surrey Council, to ask their views on this issue and whether, if elected, they would support the creation of a new parish council. We also asked them to indicate whether or not they are currently resident in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward.

The main question(s) we put to them are copied from our letter:

*"As you know, the recent Community Governance Review (CGR) resulted in a clear recommendation to create a new parish council: Banstead and The Villages Council. This was formally approved by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council (RBBC) on 26th March.*

*Due to a widely publicised 'administrative oversight', the power to finalise this decision has fallen to the new East Surrey Council. The TWRA consulted its members and residents widely on this matter. There was overwhelming support for the creation of this new parish Council.*

*Because of the importance of this issue locally, we wish to understand what position you will take if elected. Specifically, do you support:*

**1. Direct Adoption:** *ESC immediately adopts the existing RBBC recommendations to ensure the new parish is created without further delay.*

**2. Another Review:** *ESC ignores the completed CGR and spends further council taxpayer funds to run the process from scratch.*

**3. Dismissal:** *ESC ignores the views of the residents and the previous council's democratic vote entirely.*

**4. Alternative:** *Maybe you have a different course of action to propose. If so, please would you tell us what that is?"*

The responses we received are reproduced below, in alphabetical order of the parties the candidates represent.

**What do our local candidates standing for election to East Surrey Council think about the proposal to create a new Banstead & The Villages Council?**

## **Conservatives**

### **Candidates: George Curry and Shelly Newton**

Both candidates currently reside in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward.

A reply was received from George Curry on behalf of both himself and Shelly Newton:

*"As Shelly Newton and I are running as a team on 7th May, for the East Surrey Unitary Election, I am sure it won't surprise you to learn that we have agreed a joint position on this matter.*

*We are both in favour of the formation of a local Parish Council and our position is aligned with the Reigate and Banstead Conservative Association (RBCA). The RBCA is pro-parishes, and is actively pushing for the creation of Banstead & The Villages Parish Council in the North of the Borough.*

*Reigate & Banstead Borough Council ran a Community Governance Review which showed that a significant majority of residents were in favour of creating a local Parish Council to safeguard the representation of local people in the new era of Unitary Councils. The Reigate and Banstead Conservative group led a 29-2 vote in favour of establishing the Parish Council.*

*Ultimately, the decision on whether or not to implement a local Parish Council will be up to the new East Surrey Unitary, so if Shelly and I are elected to this new authority on May 7th, it is something we will both push to implement."*

## **Green Party**

### **Candidates: Brian McGuirk and Alistair Morten**

Alistair Morten is currently resident in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward.

A reply was received from Alistair Morten:

*"With respect to the public call for the creation of a new 'Banstead & The Villages' parish council, if elected, I would strongly support such a parish being created as soon as possible by the new East Surrey Council. Furthermore, in alignment with the TWRA, I have supported this initiative since it was first proposed."*

We have not been able to make contact with Brian McGuirk.

## **Independent**

### **Candidate: Zelanie Cooper**

Zelanie Cooper is currently resident in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward.

*"While I support the principle of Town and Parish Councils as a means to support local democracy, it is essential that residents are presented with clear, comprehensive, and impartial information so they can make a genuinely informed decision.*

*I voted openly in Full Council to support revisiting the establishment of parish and town councils under the new Unitary Council. However, this process must be thorough and transparent. It should set out, in full, the potential financial implications for residents (recognising that previous estimates have ranged widely from £10 to £300) and clearly explain the specific roles and responsibilities any Parish or Town Council would assume.*

*Equally important is the integrity of the consultation process. Standardised or template letters of support or objection, as often seen in planning matters, should not be accepted, ensuring that all responses reflect genuine, individual views from residents. Finally, it is crucial that all discussions and communications are conducted free from political bias, fostering trust, openness, and confidence in whatever decision is ultimately reached."*

## **Labour**

### **Candidates: Andrew Kriek and Esme Wright**

Andrew Kriek is currently resident in the Banstead, Woodmansterne and Chipstead ward.

Esme Wright is currently resident in the Nork and Tattenhams ward.

A reply was revised on behalf of both candidates.

*"Parish and Village Councils should wait for the Unitary Authorities to be Established.*

*Forming an extra layer of government in the middle of a major restructure of local government is not something that can be supported by the Reigate Labour Party, although we do agree with the idea of local parish and village councils. We are completely in agreement with the consolidation of 5 borough councils into one unitary authority. This has the benefits of saving money, improving efficiencies and creating a simpler access for residents.*

*The job of merging 5 boroughs will not be a simple one and to make it work effectively needs expertise, effort and co-operation. This is the number one priority. Our view is that once this work has been completed, another level of organisation can be investigated. We worry that just as we are taking one layer of government out, another is being inserted with loosely defined responsibilities. This will not lead to efficient government. We would like to have local representation for local issues, hence our support for having parish and village councils, but we do not recommend new ones be established at this stage. However, we want to take the politics out of these organisations. We would prefer they were run by individuals that wanted to make a difference to their local parishes and villages, but not subject to party discipline and voting, which is what will occur. We do not want to put a compulsory £55 per year tax onto each household in the middle of a cost of living crisis, particularly when the areas of responsibilities of the parish and village councils have not been specifically defined. In our view, we need local people to be involved in planning and developing local amenities and beautifying local allotments and parks. We are supportive of voluntary organisations running Parish and Village councils and resident's associations that apply to the unitary authority for grants to undertake certain projects.*

*When the East Surrey Unitary Authority is up and running, we should then revisit this issue to determine the best course of action for Tadworth, Walton and Kingswood."*

### **Liberal Democrats**

#### **Candidates: Thomas Dalton and Helen Staddon**

We have not been advised as to whether either candidate lives in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward.

The following statement was received from Helen Staddon on behalf of both candidates:

*"As a long-time resident of the north of the Reigate & Banstead borough, I, Helen Staddon, would personally support a forum which represents the particular local character of this area and manages and protects local services and amenities such as libraries and community centres. Thomas Dalton, my fellow candidate in Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood, has also highlighted his experience of how effective parish councils can be in strengthening local representation, ensuring community voices are heard, and delivering meaningful improvements to local services and amenities.*

*This approach has worked well to represent diverse communities in long-standing unitary authorities such as Cornwall and is in line with the core Liberal Democrat commitment to community politics and consultation at a local level, as outlined in our manifesto commitment: to encourage, support, and develop partnerships with Parish and Town Councils where there is demand from the community.*

*In the case of Banstead and The Villages, the published responses to the recent consultation seem to have been very positive, and, if you take the cost of existing parish councils in the borough as representative, a price worth paying even in these times of extreme financial pressure."*

### **Reform UK**

#### **Candidates: Terry Sankarsingh and Liam Tomkins**

Both candidates currently reside in the Tadworth, Walton & Kingswood ward.

A reply was received on behalf of both candidates:

*"We recognise that parish councils can play a valuable role as a strong voice for local communities, ensuring that residents are heard and represented at the most local level.*

*However, at this time, it would not be responsible for us to make a definitive commitment on the specific options outlined.*

*The transition to the new East Surrey Unitary Authority creates a period of significant uncertainty. For the first year, elected members will serve in a shadow capacity, with limited authority to implement or commit to structural decisions of this nature. Until there is greater clarity on the governance framework, powers, and financial position of the new authority, any firm commitment would risk being premature.*

*Our position, therefore, is to approach this matter pragmatically:*

- to fully understand the structure and powers of the new authority once established*
- to carefully review the implications of any parish arrangements within that framework*
- and to ensure that any decision ultimately taken is sustainable, accountable, and in the best long-term interests of residents"*

These responses from the various candidates have also been published on our web site [www.TWRA.org.uk](http://www.TWRA.org.uk) and can be downloaded from there if needed in electronic form.

### **TWRA AGM & participation at Walton May Pageant & Fayre**

TWRA committee members will be available on the TWRA stand at the Walton May Fayre on Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> ready to discuss issues and answer residents' questions on topics such as TWRA activities and the implications of local government reorganisation. There will also be a competition to identify the location where various photographs were taken locally. Those getting 8 or more correct out of 9 will receive small prizes.

### **The TWRA AGM will be held from 7.30pm on May 27<sup>th</sup> in Chinthurst School Hall.**

Doors will open at 7pm with a welcome drink provided. In the letter to local election candidates mentioned above they were also advised of the date of the TWRA AGM and that the two winning candidates would have slots made available on the agenda to introduce themselves and their new roles to TWRA members. Another guest speaker will be local historian Tim Richardson with the topic "Tadworth & Walton in 1940."

### **Chequers Lane Planning Appeal**

At the time of writing this bulletin there has been no decision published on the appeal relating to the creation of permanent and temporary caravan sites in a field alongside Chequers Lane.

The TWRA AGM will include an update concerning an initiative to acquire some of the land near to the site subject to the appeal.

### **ROAD REPORTS**

Roadworks are anticipated in Shelveys Way with traffic controls from May 11<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> east of the junction with Tadorne Road and West of the junction with Fleetwood Close.

On Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup> Walton Street and Chequers Lane will be closed to traffic for the Pageant Procession for about 2 hours leading up to its arrival at Howards Close around 2pm.

Consult Surrey's interactive map for the latest information on roadworks.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/roadworks/map>

### **POLICE & NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORTS**

Parliament has just passed important new legislation the has over 70 measures including  
tougher police powers to crackdown on antisocial behaviour and retail crime by:

Introducing Respect Orders to enable the police to ban repeat offenders from town centres and other locations.

Removing the requirement for police to issue a prior warning before seizing any vehicle used in an anti-social manner.

Ending the outdated treatment of theft under the value of £200 as a summary-only offence so perpetrators can be punished properly.

Introducing a bespoke offence for assaulting a retail worker with a possible sentence of six months in prison.

New powers for police and the wider criminal justice system aim to restore confidence in policing and to tackle the epidemic of serious violence and violence against women and girls

These new measures will be underpinned by the Neighbourhood Policing Guarantee to deliver an additional 13,000 neighbourhood officers by the end of this parliament.

To tackle the epidemic of online stalking and to protect children and vulnerable adults from harm:

Helping police manage online stalkers and protect victims through new 'Right to Know' guidance on disclosing the identity of an online stalker to victims at the earliest opportunity.

More powers for courts to impose Stalking Protection Orders directly when a defendant is convicted or acquitted, to keep perpetrators away from victims and prevent further harm.

There will be a standalone offence of child criminal exploitation with a penalty of up to 10 years' imprisonment and accompanying orders which will allow courts to intervene early to prevent children from being harmed.

The Act introduces a new criminal offence of cuckooing (home takeover for illegal activity) with a maximum sentence of five years' imprisonment.

It is also introducing a new offence for internal concealment of drugs and other specified items including forcing individuals to hide items inside their bodies.

The Act has also introduced further laws around the sale of knives online as the government aims to halve knife crime in a decade:

Tech bosses will have personal criminal liability for failing to act on illegal knife and weapons content on their platforms resulting in a total fine of up to £70,000 for each offence.

There will be a mandatory two-step verification for online knife purchases at both point of sale and delivery using photographic ID

Retailers are legally required to report any bulk purchases of bladed articles made online, to tackle organised crime.

There is a new offence of possession of a knife with intent to cause unlawful violence with a sentence of up to seven years in prison.

#### **Burglary Reports**

**28/04/2026 04:05. Buckland Road, Lower Kingswood.** Attempted Residential Garage Burglary. Method of Entry – Attempted forced entry through the garage door. Suspects left when disturbed by a neighbour.

Stolen: Nothing Taken. (PR 45260048752)

**17/04/2026 Between 20:30 to 20:45. Warren Road, Banstead.** Attempted Residential Burglary. Method of Entry – Not confirmed at this time.

Stolen: Nothing Taken. (PR 45260044354)

**14/04/2026 18:22. Morston Close, Tadworth.** Residential Burglary. Method of Entry – Forced entry through a rear window to the property.

Stolen: Not confirmed at this time. (PR 45260043100)

**Between 14/04/2026 11:30 to 16/04/2026 02:53. Courtlands Crescent, Banstead.** Residential Garage Burglary. Method of Entry – Forced entry through the garage door.

Stolen: Motorbike. (PR 45260043716)

#### **Vehicle Crime**

**Banstead, Pound Road, 20/04/2026 between 18:00 to 22:48** Keyless Car Theft. Range Rover (PR 45250046162)

**Kingswood, Waterhouse Lane, between 22/04/2026 20:30 to 23/04/2026 06:00** keyless Vehicle Theft. Peugeot Motorhome (PR 45250046718)

**Banstead, Chipstead Road, Between 18/04/2026 17:00 to 20/04/2026 17:10** Car Theft. BMW (PR 45250045694)

#### **Contact the Neighbourhood Team**

The Police Reference Number (PR) with each of the reports is shown in brackets. If you have any information on any of the reports, including CCTV, please contact us quoting the Police Reference Number (PR).

As always, the local Neighbourhood Team are keen to receive information on all crime spotted or believed to have occurred as this can assist with ongoing enquiries, as well as helping to pool information to build a wider understanding.

If you believe you have any information relating to relevant information or concerns you can:

Call 101

On line reporting <https://www.surrey.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

If you have social media, why not give us a follow. You can also message us if you want to report something to us

Our Facebook is Reigate and Banstead Beat (Surrey Police) and our twitter is ReigateBeat

You can also give information totally anonymously by contacting the Independent Charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111; or through their anonymous online form <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/>

In an Emergency please contact 999.

For general enquiries please email us at: [reigateandbanstead@surrey.police.uk](mailto:reigateandbanstead@surrey.police.uk)

As ever if you have any questions or queries please don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

### Arrests

The Police have added a new category to the reports that they circulate - this shows the number of arrests made in Reigate & Banstead during a recent period.

There were 45 arrests in the period April 23rd 2026 to April 29th 2026, these included:

Domestic Incident/Violent Domestic Abuse 11, Rape/Sexual Offence 5, Drugs 2, Prescribed Limit 1, Violent Crime in a Public Place 4, Violent Crime Other 3, Crime Public Order 2, Harassment/Stalking 1, Child Protection 2, Master Occurrence 2\*, Robbery 1, Theft 1, Immigration 1, Residential Burglary 1, Road Related 1, Custody Issue 2, Absconder/Wanted 1, Breach of Community Protection Order 1.

### Reigate & Banstead Police Newsletter

The April Newsletter includes details of the Policing Your Community event which will take place on July 7<sup>th</sup> in Redhill with an opportunity for Reigate & Banstead residents to meet senior Surrey Police representatives as well as the Police & Crime Commissioner. Follow the

[Reigate and Banstead Police Newsletter April 2026 Final 6.pdf](#)

### Fraud Reports

**Criminals stole over £879 million through investment fraud in 2025.**

Victims of investment fraud lost an average of £1,675 every minute last year, new figures from the City of London Police, the National Lead Force for Fraud, have revealed.

In 2025, 34,673 people reported investment fraud to Report Fraud, the national service that replaced Action Fraud in December 2025. This marks a 31 per cent rise on the previous year. The rise in reporting is not only linked to an increase in investment fraud, but also due to the point at which victims realise what has happened. Reports began climbing steadily from March and spiked in July and September when many people review their investments, move money into new products or check their returns ahead of the new financial year.

As part of wider fraud-prevention work, **we are urging the public to take simple steps to protect themselves.**

Before making any investment, use the FCA's [firm checker tool](#), to confirm whether a firm or individual is authorised. The tool can be accessed via the FCA website and is one of the most effective ways to avoid cloned firms and bogus advisers.

We encourage anyone considering an investment to be cautious of unsolicited messages, adverts promising unusually high returns, or requests to keep the offer "confidential".

You can also contact the Financial Conduct Authority's consumer helpline on 0800 111 6768 or report suspicious businesses or individuals by using the reporting form on their website.

Any suspicious activity should be reported to Report Fraud as soon as possible at [www.reportfraud.police.uk](http://www.reportfraud.police.uk) or by calling 0300 123 2040. In Scotland, victims of fraud and cybercrime should report to Police Scotland on

### EVENTS' SECTION

May 2<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> Banstead Arts Festival see [www.BansteadArts.org.uk](http://www.BansteadArts.org.uk)

Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup> Local Elections see TWRA statement above.

Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> Riddell Hall doors open 7pm for 7.30pm "Cabaret Evening" with bar presented by The Hilltop Community Choir. Admission £10 Supporting the Choir and The Friends of St. Peter's.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 10.30 – 12** the Good Shepherd Coffee Morning will take place in the back of the church normally every Saturday.

**Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>** Resumption of Village Kitchen Lunches in the Riddell Hall.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May** From 6.30pm Family Gameshow Night in the Good Shepherd Hall in aid of Church funds. Tickets must be pre-booked enquiries phone 07740373985

**Friday May 15<sup>th</sup>** TWOAT John Allinson Memorial Walk on Reigate Heath see [www.TWOAT.org](http://www.TWOAT.org)

**Friday/Sat/Sun 15 – 17 May** Tadworth Art Group Exhibition free entry at Peter Aubertin Hall, Chipstead CR5 3SG. Share free wine and canapes with the artists on opening Friday night 6.30 – 10pm. Sat 10am – 6pm, Sunday 10am – 5pm.

**Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>** Walton Pageant and May Fayre in Howard's Close.

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May** TWRA AGM. Chinthurst School Hall, doors open 7pm with welcoming drink for 7.30pm start. Note parking is limited in the area so please walk if you can.

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June** the Craft Community meet at 9am in the Good Shepherd Church and on subsequent 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays in each months. All age groups and skill levels welcome. Enquiries to [chaosgremlins@gmail.com](mailto:chaosgremlins@gmail.com)

**Sunday June 7<sup>th</sup>** Good Shepherd Parish Lunch in the GS Hall – note you must book on the list in the church in advance.

**Saturday/Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> June** A Gardner's Delight, several KWTS members open their gardens for a one-off ticket price of £7.50 per adult. Visit the Horticultural Society web site for details here [www.kwhortsoc.co.uk](http://www.kwhortsoc.co.uk)

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June** Walton Village Forum please check time and venue (Dog House 8pm?)

**For details of the many Group Activities and Events organised by Banstead u3a for those no longer in full-time work, visit here** [www.u3asites.org.uk/banstead/home](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/banstead/home)

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The Tribune magazine can be [read online here](#) .

Please let me know if you have an event taking place in the next 2 months.

Mike Fox  
For TWRA, Community Support & Neighbourhood Watch  
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