

## **News from the Long Ditton Residents' Association**

### **Taylor Wimpey development proposal on Long Ditton Green Belt**

In August 2025, Taylor Wimpey lodged a planning application (2025/2018) with Elmbridge for a development comprising of around 144 homes on the Green Belt land extending from Hill Park Roses to the summit of One Tree Hill. This application has sought to justify the reclassification of the land as 'grey belt' and to secure approval for development. The Long Ditton Residents' Association (LDRA), whilst supporting the delivery of housing in the right place, has objected to this application in order to protect our Green Belt land. The application went to the EBC planning committee on 25<sup>th</sup> March and was refused by councillors.

### **Hook Park development proposal on Chessington Green Belt**

In October 2025, housebuilder Poppymill submitted an outline planning application for a development of 2,000 homes on Green Belt land adjacent to Chessington Equestrian Centre, next to the A3. (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames app 25/02749/OUT and EBC app 2025/2765), arguing for the land's reclassification as 'grey belt' and approval for development. The LDRA is opposed to building on Green Belt land and is very concerned that this proposal would result in significant traffic congestion in Long Ditton and Hinchley Wood, due to the proposed new roundabout on the A309 and this being the main access/egress point for the development. <https://hook-park.co.uk/>. At time of writing there is no decision.

### **LDRA AGM**

All residents were invited to attend the LDRA AGM which was held on Wednesday 13th May at the Long Ditton Village Hall. Our ward councillors (EBC & SCC) attended – it provided the opportunity to ask them questions. All local issues were covered like our Green Belt, Local Government reform, street maintenance, pot holes, parking, mobile masts, recreation ground and more.

### **Hanging Baskets above the shops and Flower Tubs**

The LDRA has liaised with EBC and the Fleece Road shopkeepers to provide the hanging baskets and the planting of the flower tubs in the parade as usual. We greatly appreciate the support of our local shops to enhance the parade.

### **Surrey County Council Reorganisation**

Surrey County Council is being divided into two Unitary Authorities called East Surrey and West Surrey. Elmbridge Borough Council will cease to exist from April 2027 and will be merged with Epsom & Ewell, Mole Valley, Tandridge and Reigate & Banstead Borough Councils to form the 'East Surrey Unitary Authority'. In April 2027 the three Elmbridge Councillors and one shared Surrey County Councillor roles will be replaced by two Unitary Authority Councillors. These two new councillors, elected in May this year, will represent the new ward of Long Ditton, Hinchley Wood, and Weston Green from April 2027. They will help build the new East Surrey Council and shadow existing councillors until April 2027, when they will assume their full councillor roles and duties for four years.

### **LDRA Committee**

We are seeking new volunteers, so if you are interested in a position on the LDRA committee, please contact Mark Herbert (Vice Chair) or Paul Bartlett (Treasurer).

### **LDRA on Facebook**

The LDRA Facebook page continues to grow in popularity and has over 2,700 members. It is a great source of local information. You can join by searching FB for 'Long Ditton Residents Association' and requesting membership. Please read and agree to the FB page rules to be accepted.

### **Monthly LDRA Committee Meetings – Community Hall**

The LDRA continues to hold monthly committee meetings in the Long Ditton Community Hall, behind St. Mary's Church. All residents are welcome to attend, especially if they have an issue to raise. The meetings start at 8.00pm, on the first Wednesday in the month, except May, August and November.

### **Local Police**

All incidents of anti-social behaviour should be reported to Surrey Police (ring 101 or online <https://www.surrey.police.uk/>). The LDRA is working with the local police team, so please feel free to keep us informed too. Information on police matters can be viewed on <https://www.police.uk/your-area/surrey-police/the-dittons-and-hinchley-wood/>

**Help us to help you!**

In addition to Facebook and our website, we would like to use e-mail to keep you informed. If you would like to be on our e-mailing list please send your full name, your road and e-mail address to: [mark.herbert@longditton.org](mailto:mark.herbert@longditton.org). All information supplied will be used in accordance with GDPR, strictly by the LDRA Officers only, and not made public. All recipients are e-mailed using *Blind carbon copy* (Bcc).