

Newham Grange Park Consultation

Friends of Newham Grange Park worked hard on the consultation on new plans for the Park held at Sainsbury's last month. Thank you everyone who took part, and the results about the need for lighting, and other facilities are being worked on.

ADVERTISEMENT

On May 5th we will go to the polls to vote on how we vote!

We will be asked if we want to change to a fairer way of voting for MPs. Instead of just a vote for one person you'll be able to put them in order of preference. The campaign is being led by people of all parties and none - remember those crowds demanding reform last year? Local campaigner Elliot Kennedy says: 'Changing to the 'Alternative Vote' will mean MPs will need to work harder to get elected. They will be far more accountable to residents and no vote needs to be wasted. That's why I'm going to be voting YES on May 5th.'

MAKE YOUR MP WORK HARDER



VOTE YES! ON 5TH MAY

Off Road Bikes

We receive a lot of complaints about off road bikes, particularly around the **Selwyn Drive** area.

Police are requesting the assistance of the public to help identify users of motor vehicles being used in an anti social manner. Of particular interest to Police are those people who use quad bikes, mini moto's and scooters on public green belt areas and paths/walkways. These vehicles are often used without licences or insurance and present a clear danger to pedestrians and property.

If you can provide any information with regards to identity of owners/users, places of storage, identifying marks or specific times/places used please contact Police in complete confidence on 01642 302930.



BISHOPSGARTH COTTAGES

After a long wait we have finally received the decisions of the Planning Inspector on several appeals which had been submitted following decisions made by the council's planning team. The Inspector's agree with us that the buildings, as built, are too big and must be reduced in size. Council officers are now working to ensure the development fits with the originally approved plans.

Suzanne said " I am really pleased that the Inspector has agreed with us on this issue. What has been built bears absolutely no resemblance to the farm cottages that originally occupied this site and I am particularly upset at the loss of the ancient hedgerow that was damaged during the construction work."

DID YOU KNOW? – Elm Tree

Community Centre has computers that people can access for free - 9am - 3pm Monday - Friday with a friendly hand to help any who need one ! Call in and ask for details or phone the Centre on 611333

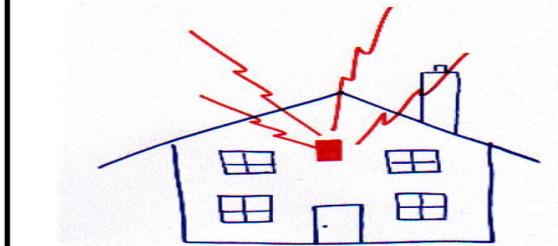
Whitehouse Primary School Parking

We are pleased that we have been invited to take part in the review of the school travel plan for Whitehouse Primary School. Along with representatives from the school, police and Council, we recently met with some really committed pupils of the school who are working on producing posters, notices etc. to try to persuade parents and pupils of the benefits of parking further away and walking to school. This is still "work in progress" so ask you to bear with us and them as this very important work.



POSTAL VOTES

You need to be registered to vote by 5.00 pm on Thursday 14th April. If you think you will not be able to vote at the polling station for any reason, the last date for returning your postal vote application is also 5.00 pm Thursday 14th April. The date for (non urgent) Proxy votes is Tuesday 21st April. You can contact the Council electoral registration department on 526196 or electoral@stockton.gov.uk. You can also contact us for more information



NOISY HOME ALARMS

There have been a number of complaints about noise out of hours from house alarms or "noisy neighbours". The Lib Dems on Stockton Council did campaign for an "out of hours" noise service and now you can ring 528034 each Friday and Saturday evening between 10pm and 3am the following morning.

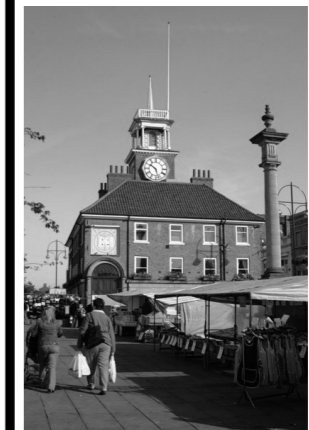
There are also Enforcement Officers (phone 528439) available every night between 6pm and midnight and during the day at weekends to deal with any noise complaints.

You can see more details at: <http://tinyurl.com/6k775wn> or we will print out information for those without internet access.

Durham Road / Darlington Lane Junction

Many people have spoken to us about the problem of turning right from **Darlington Lane** onto **Durham Road**. We're told that changing the traffic light timings would cause increased queues on Durham Road. Many options have been considered, too many to detail here but get in touch if you want to know more. In the meantime we are told that "The Highway Code states that, when turning right at a crossroads when an on-coming vehicle is also turning right, the safest way of turning is right side to side, keeping the other vehicle on your right and turning behind it, so as to have a clear view of any opposing straight ahead traffic".

Stockton Town Centre



The council will be carrying out consultation on plans for the Town Centre, starting on 10th March for 3 weeks. We don't think this is long enough but do watch out for details.

**LIBERAL DEMOCRAT ACTION - ALL YEAR, EVERY YEAR
FOCUS DELIVERED FREE TO THOUSANDS OF HOMES IN BISHOPSGARTH AND ELM TREE BY
VOLUNTEERS - PAID FOR BY LOCAL LIBERAL DEMOCRATS.
NOT JUST AT ELECTION TIME.**