

TWRA REPORTS

A new Parish Council?

The TWRA held a public meeting concerning the creation of a new Parish Council in the north of the current borough of Reigate & Banstead on January 9th. At the end of the meeting a vote of those present was taken and all were in favour in principle of the idea although different views had been expressed about some points of detail relating to the proposal that had been published by R&B Council.

Taking due account of points raised at the meeting the TWRA Committee has finalised its submission to the RBBC stage 2 Community Governance Review consultation about the creation of a new parish council in the Banstead area.

The attached PDF file contains the full response. We have said we are in favour of the creation of a new parish council but expressed reservations about certain aspects of the Council's recommendations.

The main reasons for being in favour relate to: the need for improved democratic representation which a new parish will afford - giving local residents a stronger voice in local governance; the statutory status of a parish - the requirement for it to be formally consulted on planning and development decisions locally, and to be able to develop a neighbourhood development plan tailored to the area's needs; and the potential for a parish council to better meet certain local needs that a larger unitary authority (the new East Surrey Council) may not be able or willing to address.

The concerns we expressed relate to the recommended numbers of councillors per ward, which is felt to be very inequitable in some cases, and to the proposed parish name. We also recommend that one proposed ward (Kingswood) should be renamed (Kingswood & Burgh Heath).

Don't forget, you have until this Friday, 16th January, at 5pm to submit your own views by responding to the Council's online survey at reigate-banstead.gov.uk/cgr

REPORT FROM OUR MP

e-news update – TWRA

2025 has been another busy year!

As the weather gets colder, I'm incredibly grateful that Winter Fuel Payments have been re-instated – something many of you across Tadworth and Walton were calling for. My sincere thanks to those of you who supported my campaign to ensure those pensioners who rely on this payment to stay warm continue to receive it.

At the other end of the age spectrum, I welcome Surrey County Council significantly increasing funding for children with Special Educational Needs. Again, something many parents and carers locally have contacted me about. I will continue to work with the local authority as well as Ministers to ensure we see further improvements on this, and that our children get the support they need and deserve.

The Christmas period is often a moment of reflection, and having participated in the Parliamentary Armed Forces Scheme over the course of the last year – including visiting our two military bases in Cyprus and attending extreme cold weather training with the Royal Marines in Norway – my thoughts are very much with members of our armed forces and their families as they work through the Christmas and New Year period. Many men and women across our area have served in the armed forces and will share my appreciation for the sacrifices they make to keep us safe. I am sure they will also have listened, like me, carefully and with concern to the recent warnings over the increasing threat our country faces from hostile states, like Russia and China.

As your Member of Parliament, my number one priority is the safety and security of our nation. The recent comments by the Chief of the Defence Staff, Sir Richard Knighton, and the new MI6 Chief, Blaise Metreweli, came as a stark reminder of the increasingly uncertain world we are now in. Indeed, Blaise Metreweli said in the view of MI6 "we are now operating in a space between peace and war".

Whilst I welcome increases in defence spending, global threats clearly warrant more funding and faster. To give a comparison, in 1950 £1 in every £10 of Government spending went towards the defence of our country – today that

stands at just over £2 in every £100. It's time that we take the risks to our country seriously, and adequately fund defence. I'll continue my calls in Parliament for increased defence spending.

On a lighter note, I would like to thank members and the committee of the Tadworth and Walton Residents' Association for all their work over the past year. Speaking to constituents locally – and as a Walton resident myself - I know how grateful we are for everything the Residents' Association does. We are fortunate to have such a community minded group of people that are committed to delivering improvements in our local area. I also recognise that with Local Government Reorganisation and the Community Governance Review relating to potential town and parish councils, the workload this year will be more than previously. So I want to thank them in advance for all their efforts to get the best result for Tadworth and Walton, and I am here to support them in any way that I can.

I really do hope this update has been helpful. As always, if you need my help I can be contacted at rebecca.paul.mp@parliament.uk

Very best wishes,

Rebecca **Rebecca Paul MP Member of Parliament for Reigate,**

ROAD REPORTS

Consult Surrey's interactive map for the latest information.

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

Temporary traffic lights will be operating in Station Approach with roadworks by Southern Gas Networks possibly until 1st Feb.

POLICE & NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORTS

Our current Borough Commander, Inspector Jon Vale, will be moving on from his post in Reigate & Banstead and will be taking up a role with the National Police Chiefs Council on 9th February. His successor will be Inspector Lyndsey Whatley, who will be moving across from Tandridge.

Burglary Reports

06/01/2026 00:57, Lackford Road, Coulsdon. Attempted Residential Burglary. Method of Entry – Attempted forced entry has been gained through the front door. The suspects were disturbed by the occupant and left the property.

Stolen: Nothing Taken. (PR 45260001766)

Between 02/01/2026 00:00 to 06/01/2026 18:41. High Road, Chipstead. Residential Burglary resulting in the theft of a car. Method of Entry – Not confirmed at this time, but believed to have been through the conservatory doors.

Stolen: Including car keys, car (BMW) and a watch. (PR 45260001819)

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

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

Trading Standards Newsletter

This is the first newsletter of 2026 and it's full of scam alerts, fraud advice, recalls and the question on all our minds "how can I return unwanted Christmas gifts?"

[You can read the newsletter here](#)

EVENTS' SECTION

Friday 16th January Curzon Country Cinema presents Downton Abbey - The Grand Finale. Screenings at 2pm, 4.40pm and 7.15pm all seats £8 at the Riddell Hall. Note please do check Curzon web site for latest programme details www.curzoncountrycinema.com

Saturday 17th January the Coffee Morning will be held in the Good Shepherd Church from 10.30 am to 12 noon. It will normally take place every Saturday in the back of the Church.

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Friday 23rd Jan at 7.30pm and Sat 24th Jan at 2pm and 7pm the Good Shepherd pantomime Cinderella in the Hall. Adults £12.50 Child (u14) £8.50, family (2+2) £40. Box office 362610 or www.ticketsource.co.uk/goodshepherdtdaworth

Sunday 1st February Good Shepherd Parish Lunch in the GS Hall – note you must book on the list in the church in advance.

Saturday 7th February the Craft Community meet at 9am in the Good Shepherd Church and on subsequent 1st Saturdays in each months. All age groups and skill levels welcome. Enquiries to chaosgremlins@gmail.com

Saturday 14th February the Walton Village Kitchen will be serving light lunches in the Riddell Hall on the second Saturday of each month.

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Saturday 21st February 11am – 1pm Jumble Sale in Good Shepherd Hall. Donated items can be dropped off from 6 – 8pm on Mon 16th Feb and Fri 20th Feb. No electrical items, duvets or furniture.

Tuesday 24th Feb Comedy Night in aid of The Children's Trust featuring Adam Hills

Tuesday 24th February Walton Forum Meeting – usually at 8pm in Breech Lane Community Hall but please check the Forum web page to confirm venue and time.

Saturday 28th Feb Charity Quiz Night in Kingswood Village Hall in aid of The Children's Trust, TWOAT and others.

Saturday 14th March International food evening in the Good Shepherd Hall more details to follow.

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

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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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