

## Report of the Environmental Sub Group Held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2013

### Town Centre Planting

It was decided that the plants in the Nat West planters required a mid-summer tidy up. FS and CA began the process immediately by adding additional plants and potting soil.

A better system for keeping the plants watered is being sought. It was decided that a rota will be available at the July meeting to ask for help. It was also decided that a committee member should be present, even if only to supervise, because the security of the gate where water is accessed is extremely important. Request for volunteers is included in the Summer newsletter.

To create more awareness of the Brighter Leatherhead Trophy there will be a leaflet drop through the letterboxes of businesses in the town centre. Even though it is a bit late this year it will make people aware that we are interested in the appearance of the town.

**Leach Grove Wood** A new application for Village Green Status, submitted at the end of March with 74 evidence of use forms, was accepted (as was essential) before the new Growth and Infrastructure Bill was passed in April. Evidence of use statements continued to be gathered until June 25<sup>th</sup> when a final submission of another 285 was made to County Hall. We are now in a 6 week objection period. Letters to SCC showing support are sought during this period.

The LRA's Leach Grove Wood reserve fund will go some way toward paying the barrister who has guided us through the process giving a much stronger chance to win.

**Forty-foot Road Update** A series of meetings beginning May 23<sup>rd</sup> have resulted in the Fortyfoot Safety Campaign group to petition SCC to:

1. Make sound repairs to the craters in Fortyfoot Road, Leatherhead *without delay*
2. Adopt the road permanently at the next County Council Cabinet meeting before there are further serious incidents.

### Summer Litter Pick

An attempt is being made to have a **Litter pick** to coincide with the 4<sup>th</sup> August Prudential RideLondon Cycle race. Notification is given in the Summer newsletter. The 1<sup>st</sup> August activity will be coordinated with MV to supply equipment and will follow last year's plan except that the targeted areas will not be limited to the cycle route. Many committee members will be on holiday so volunteers will be necessary.

### Debriefing after the Leatherhead Open Gardens/ beginning of plans for next year.

As interest in the project gains momentum, it is necessary to think of how we can maximise its potential. To this end, feedback from Bookham Open Gardens was discussed. Comments/suggestions of participants have been noted.

Since the Friends of the Parish Church have over the years held open gardens, it has been suggested that 2014 should be a joint venture. We as a sub committee have agreed that this is a good idea. The next meeting of the 'friends' is in July so we should have a better idea of how this might develop by the end of the summer.

Some people have already volunteered to open their gardens for 2014 but we are eager to have a list of gardens that could be open over the next two years.