

## Environment Subcommittee Report for September LRA Open Committee

The Subcommittee did not meet in August but there are a few things to report about ongoing endeavours.

### Leatherhead Station

As reported to the August meeting, we had great hopes that the deplorable state of the Leatherhead Railway Station was well on its way to be rectified. This was true because we had discovered that Southern Railways had signed an agreement to take over responsibility for the area on either side of the tracks and had assigned a reference number to the complaint.

The following were specifically mentioned as areas of concern. Two have been highlighted in blue:

- Large branches have been cut back and thrown over the fences protecting the rail. They are in full view of the public
- Wire fence panels have been clumsily stacked behind the fencing in full public view and are trapping litter tossed over the fence.
- There is an accumulation of litter thrown over the fence by rail passengers (my photos show our attempt to make the situation better but without the access that only Railway employees have, it is impossible to remedy the problem).
- Overhanging branches impede passage along the west side of the pavement leading to the station.

Result of complaint to date: There are no longer branches overhanging the pavements near the station. Unfortunately, the large branches have been cut back and thrown over the fences. The area of concern actually looks worse. Southern Railways have been notified of the substandard work of their contractors and we await news of further progress.

CB has visited the station twice to attempt to make contact with the station manager. On her last visit she left a note and ask the manager to contact her. We cannot progress with our next part of the Anti Litter Campaign without making contact with the station manager.

**Autumn Litter Pick** We are trying to set an October date for the final litter pick this year. We are hoping to combine forces with the Leatherhead Rotary Club again.

**Tree Planting** When the very large chestnut tree at Windfield was felled in recent years due to honey fungus disease, we were told that it would be replaced. It has not been replaced yet. We have searched for trees that are resistant to honey fungus and have a list of possible trees to plant. It was never made clear who would pay for the tree. Could this be a place to locate one of the trees we have discussed with Cllr Hall? Inquiries are being made.

### The Teaslewood Trust

We have received the good news that the trust has received a £10 000 grant. Details will be reported later.

**Response from Paul Anderson concerning Verges and Grass Cutting** The following email message was received:

"Thanks Caroline. I'll take a proper look at your letter and respond in time, but in terms of your comments being fed into the review of the contract and shaping future service delivery - they certainly will be. I really appreciate that feedback."

Submitted by  
Cheryl Allen